TOWN OF READING.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

Receipts and Expenditures

FOR THE

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31,

1898.

READING:
W. H. Twombly & Sons, Printers, Haven St.
1899.

TOWN OFFICERS, 1898-1899.

Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor.

WILLIAM I. RUGGLES, *Chairman.*
JAMES P. CLEMENT, *Secretary.*
GEORGE A. SHACKFORD.

Assessors.

EDWARD F. PARKER, *Chairman.*
JOHN H. ADDEN, *Secretary.*
GEORGE E. GILL.

Town Clerk.

JAMES REID.

Treasurer.

EDWARD F. PARKER.

Collector of Taxes.

HARLEY PRENTISS.

Auditors.

EDGAR N. HUNT. WALTER M. SCOTT.
ALBERT P. DANE.

Board of Health.

GEORGE F. DOW, *Chairman* . .	Term expires	1901
FRED D. MERRILL, *Secretary* . .	" "	1899
EDWARD C. NICHOLS . . .	" "	1900

(Died Oct. 29, 1898.)

School Committee.

WALTER S. PARKER, *Chairman*	Term expires	1899
GILMAN L. PARKER, *Secretary*	" "	1900
MRS. ELLEN M. BANCROFT	" "	1900
HORACE G. WADLIN	" "	1899
MARY L. NESMITH	" "	1901
HENRY C. PARKER	" "	1901

CHARLES E. HUSSEY, *Superintendent of Schools.*

Water Commissioners.

EDWARD C. NICHOLS, *Chairman* (Died Oct. 29, 1898.)	Term expires	1900
CALVIN L. MARTIN, *Secretary*	" "	1899
HENRY R. JOHNSON	" "	1901

Municipal Light Board.

HENRY ROBINSON, *Chairman*	Term expires	1901
A. NEWELL HOWES, *Secretary*	" "	1899
JAMES H. CARLETON	" "	1900

Trustees of Public Library.

HORACE G. WADLIN, *Chairman*	Term expires	1901
CYRUS M. BARROWS, *Secretary*	" "	1899
FREDERIC E. WHITTEMORE	" "	1899
HARLEY PRENTISS	" "	1900
HENRY G. KITTREDGE	" "	1900
J. WOODWARD MANNING	" "	1901

Trustees of Laurel Hill Cemetery.

GALEN A. PARKER, *Chairman*	Term expires	1899
WILLIE E. TWOMBLY	" "	1899
ALFRED W. DANFORTH, *Supt. and Sec.*	" "	1900
ALDEN BATCHELDER	" "	1901
EDWARD F. BROOKS	" "	1901
HERBERT BARROWS	" "	1900

Registrars.

JAMES REID, *Clerk.*

OLIVER L. AKERLEY. OWEN McKENNEY.

EDWARD B. DRAKE.

Engineers of Fire Department.

FRANK G. NICHOLS, *Chief.*

CHAS H. STINCHFIELD, *Clerk.* JOHN J. SHANNON.
(Removed Dec. 3, 1898.)

GEORGE L. PRATT.
(Appointed Dec. 10, 1898.)

Superintendent of Fire Alarm.

L. T. EAMES.

Forest Firewards.

CHARLES A. WESTON.

ALBION G. NICHOLS. OREN N. JONES.

ASA PARKER. MARTIN M. CUMMINGS.

Constables.

FRED D. MERRILL. HENRY STOCK.

Police.

FRED D. MERRILL, *Chief.* HENRY STOCK.

Specials.

ARTHUR E. DAVIS. J. HENRY ORR.

ASA PARKER.

Superintendent of Streets.

ARTHUR G. EMERSON.

Keeper of Almshouse.
JOHN F. BURNHAM.

Inspector of Plumbing.
GREENLEAF S. TUKEY.

Inspector of Animals and Provisions.

CALVERT H. PLAYDON, M. D. V.

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

FRANK W. PARKER.

Burial Agent.

EPHRAIM WIGHT.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN READING IN THE YEAR 1898.

DATE.	NAME OF CHILD.	SEX.	NAMES OF PARENTS.	OCCUPATION OF FATHER.
Jan. 7	Catherine Eva Parks,	F	Silas H. & Mabel Frances,	Physician.
" 10	Edward Gerard Quinlan,	M	Michael S. and Mary E.,	Upholsterer.
" 11	Howard Everett Hutchinson,	M	Ethel Hutchinson.	
" 11	Raymond Leroy Perkins,	M	Aaron T. and Clara B.,	Fish Dealer.
" 14	Mary Veronica Doucette,	F	J. Mande and Minnie E.,	Yard Master.
" 14	Frank Shaw O'Brien,	M	John J. and Mary E.,	Night Watchman.
" 18	——————Smith,	F	William Henry & Celena,	Machinist.
" 23	Lister Fielding,	M	Lister and Addie E.,	Carpet Cleaner.
" 30	Elmer Hanley Richardson,	M	Walter E. and Sadie,	Upholsterer.
Feb. 1	Erina Michelini,	F	Antonio and Annie,	Contractor.
" 3	Raymond Lesure Stevens,	M	Edward H. and Edith S.,	Salesman.
" 8	Francis Travers Berry,	M	John M. and Annie L.,	Shoemaker.
" 18	Helen Henderson,	F	Charles R. and Grace,	Physician.
" 28	James Patrick Riley,	M	Thomas and Annie,	Section Hand.
Mar. 1	Harold Vanderelst Williams,	M	Lewis S. and Annette S.,	Clerk.
" 2	Otto Marshall,	M	William A. and Themia,	Carp. and Builder.
" 4	Helen Turner,	F	John J. and Bridget T.,	Stone Mason.
" 12	Mary Ella Melanson,	F	William and Lydia,	Carpenter.
" 13	John Eric Turner,	M	John F. and Harriet,	Clerk.
" 19	Ruth Cummings Roberts,	F	Herbert H., Florence Mabel,	Wholesale Grocer.
" 21	Harry Peabody Stevens,	M	Frank E. and Lillian P.,	Baggage Master.
" 21	Mary Louise Lafave,	F	Reuben and Annie,	Carpenter.
" 25	Faith Margueriete Livingston	F	Leonard and Elizabeth,	Box Maker.
" 27	Alberta Lillian Currier,	F	Arthur G. and Jessie W.,	Plaster Manufact'rer.
" 31	Albert Douglass Gadbois,	M	Ira and Annie,	Teamster.
Apr. 6	Edith Leonora Washburn,	F	Oscar F. and Edith M.,	Farmer.
" 8	Milton Warren Symonds,	M	Warren H., Rose Standish,	Box Manufacturer.
" 8	Hattie Gertrude Seamans,	F	Palmer J. and Margaret,	Blacksmith.
" 24	Robert Leonard Buck,	M	William C. and Sallie F.,	Clerk.
May 2	Barbara Winship,	F	Frank A. and Mary L.,	Cashier.
" 3	Daniel J Desmond,	M	Daniel J. and Nora,	Gardener.
" 23	William Henry White,	M	John and Annie,	Shoemaker.
June 3	Louis Sylvester Surrette,	M	Augustus and Louise,	Carpenter.
" 6	Nicholas Holloran,	M	Martin J. and Margaret,	Laborer.
" 15	——————Frost,	M	Elibeous and Minnie,	Teamster.
" 21	George Nickerson,	M	Charles F. and Kate,	Carpenter.
" 29	George A. Buckle,	M	George Henry and Kate,	Leather Lace M'f'r.
July 8	Arthur Laroy Burchstead,	M	George A. and Mabel N.,	Shoe Cutter.
" 9	Beatrice Isabel Muse,	F	Norman and Agnes,	Laborer.
" 12	Peter White,	M	Peter and Ada,	Laborer.
" 17	Anna May Morse,	F	Charles D. and Susie S.,	Box Maker.
" 21	Helen Honora Canty,	F	Andrew S. and Isoletta A.,	Conductor.
" 28	Mary Louise White.	F	William Henry & Agnes,	Laborer.
Aug. 2	Louis William Mellen,	M	William H. and Annie,	Plumber.
" 5	Louie Sylvester Doucette,	M	James A. and Mary,	Shoe Cutter.
" 13	Annie Louise Welch,	F	Francis W. and Mary,	Farmer.
" 16	Abbie Lamprey,	F	Frank and Mollie,	Laborer.
" 24	Elvey Sherman,	F	George and Mary A.,	Machinist.
" 24	Gladys Abbott Killam,	F	William H., Henrietta A.,	Fireman.
" 25	Annie Catherine Doucette,	F	Freeman S. and Emily E.,	Shoemaker.
" 30	Viola Angele Lang,	F	George E. and Nellie,	Hackman.
Sept. 3	Andrew Sidney White,	M	Reuben and Agnes,	Shoemaker.
" 4	Grace Elizabeth Trembly,	F	John Z. and Mary,	Shoe Cutter.
" 6	Leroy Carroll Hutchinson,	M	Jesse N. and Flora L.,	Conductor.
" 8	——————Murphy,	M	Charles E. & Frances M.,	Upholsterer.
" 13	Ferdinando Francesco Marchetti	M	Luigi and Carolino,	Gardener.
" 16	Donald Nichols Tuttle,	M	Arthur S. and Susan R.,	Provision Dealer.
" 18	Albert Kenneth Dane,	M	Harry L. and Grace S.,	Bookkeeper.
" 22	Albion Russell Pendergrace,	M	Thomas F. and Elizabeth,	Grocer's Clerk.
" 22	Michael Joseph Ferrick,	M	James and Maggie,	Laborer.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN READING IN THE YEAR 1898.

DATE.	NAME OF CHILD.	SEX.	NAMES OF PARENTS.	OCCUPATION OF FATHER.
Sept. 26	Miriam Maynard Whittemore,	F	Frederick E. and Edith L.,	Teacher.
" 29	Not named—Devine,	M	Thomas H. and Josephine,	Shoemaker.
Oct. 3	Lizzie Frances Doucette,	F	Alexander and Rose,	Stone Mason.
" 5	Ruth Bosworth Martin,	F	George S. and Grace B.,	Coal Dealer.
" 6	Anna Frances Parker,	F	Albin K. and Hattie S.,	Clerk.
" 9	Clarence Albert Wight,	M	Albert O. and Ethel,	Architect.
" 12	Helen Thomas,	F	Mark I. and Etta F.,	Clerk.
" 13	Charlotte Sweetser,	F	Herbert B. and Abbie S.,	Clerk.
" 13	Edward William Phelps,	M	Edward and Ina,	Farmer.
" 17	Millie Rose White,	F	John W. and Mattie,	Shoemaker.
" 21	Elmer Warren Eaton,	M	Irving C. and Julia,	R. R. Employe.
" 27	Mary Esther McKenney,	F	Luke and Theresa,	Iceman.
" 31	Antonio Enos,	M	Antonio and Annie,	Laborer.
Nov. 9	Walter Richard McCoy,	M	Richard and Elizabeth,	Market Gardener.
" 20	Leroy Sumner Coney,	M	Charles S. and Annie,	Painter.
" 26	Owen Francis Turner,	M	Robert G. and Annie M.,	Engineer.
" 26	Dorothy Cecilia Burke,	F	John J. and Agnes M.,	Shoemaker.
Dec. 5	Mabel Frances Elliot,	F	Frank H. and Bertha L.,	Tailor.
" 8	Roger Adelbert Harris,	M	Elmer A. and Maude,	Salesman.
" 10	Seth Edward Stevens,	M	Melvin L. and Cora,	Clerk.
" 10	Bennett Joseph Murray,	M	John and Mary,	Mason.
" 17	Roger Payson Clemons,	M	Maynard E. S. and Lilla F.,	Attorney at Law
" 27	Mary Elizabeth McNeil,	F	Stephen and Agnes,	Carpenter.
" 29	Maurice Henry Donegan,	M	Henry M. and Alice M.,	Motorman.

Whole number of births registered, 84; males, 48; females, 36.

Nativity of parents: American fathers, 46; foreign, 36; 2 fathers not reported; American mothers, 40; foreign, 43; 1 mother not reported.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN READING IN THE YEAR 1898.

DATE.	NAMES OF BRIDE AND GROOM.	AGE.	OCCUPATION.	BIRTHPLACE.	NAMES OF PARENTS.	BY WHOM MARRIED.
Jan. 2	John Augustus Moulasong,	23	Rubber Worker,	Yarmouth, N. S.,	Isaac and Julia,	Rev. J. E. Millerick,
	Annie Lizzie Babine,	23	Nurse,	Yarmouth, N. S.,	Michael and Mary,	Wakfieeld
Feb. 14	John White,	23	Shoeworker,	Nova Scotia,	Zecraie and Patranoile,	Rev. Wm. T. O'Connor,
	Annie White,	18	At home,	Stoneham,	Joshua and Mary,	Wakefield
" 14	Frederick A. Dowe,	49	Shoe Finisher,	Francestown, N. H.,	Milo and Harriet,	Charles H. Learoyd, Rector,
	Charlotte E. Wallace,	30	Nurse,	Canada,	Charles and Margarete,	Wakefield
" 16	Daniel N. Ellinger,	33	Carp. and Builder,	Halifax, N. S.,	Daniel N. and Jessie,	Christopher R. Elliot,
	Eva M. DeLand,	21	Domestic,	Portland, Me.,	Frederick and Elizabeth,	Minister of the Gospel, Boston
Mar. 9	Richard Fernwood Loring,	28	Advt. Manager,	Reading,	Gustavus and Mary Ellen	Omar W. Folsom,
	Ada Mary Norton,	23		Freeport, Me.,	Obadiah W. and Abbie F.,	Bath, Me.
" 19	Robert C. Totten,	60	Blacksmith,	Londonderry, N. S.,	David and Jane,	L. B. Voorhees, Pastor,
	Mary Elizabeth Day,	44	School Teacher,	Reading,	Thomas C. and Elizabeth B.,	Congregational Church, Groton
Apr. 4	William H. Stacy,	21	Box Maker,	North Berwick, Me.,	Alphonso J. and Edith C.,	Henry E. Stimpson,
	Alice Mary Burditt,	21	Domestic,	North Reading,	Jesse and Hattie,	Justice of the Peace
" 10	Dennis Francis Cummings,	28	Paper Box Cutter,	North Reading,	Timothy and Ellen	J. F. Millerick, Catholic Priest,
	Mary Ella Connelly,	23	At home,	Lawrence,	John and Mary,	Wakefield
" 12	Stephen H. Tyng,	46	Lawyer,	Hoboken, N. J.,	Dudley A and Catherine,	Paul Sterling, Minister
	Lucy A. Barrows,	38	At home,	Reading,	William and Elizabeth,	of the Gospel, Melrose
" 21	James H. File,	20	Artist,	Florence, Kan.,	William F. and Simah M.,	Josiah H. Tilton, Clergyman.
	Anna Alloway,	32		England,	William and Anna,	Reading
May 17	Michael Joseph Daley,	30	Laborer,	Reading,	Michael and Mary,	C. H. Learoyd, Rector of
	Gertrude Maria Zwicker,	31	At home,	Gloucester,	George W. and Lucy M.,	Emmanuel Church, Wakefield
" 19	Ernest C. Whittredge,	28	Planer,	North Reading,	George C. and Mary A.,	Edward A. Manning, Minister
	Bertha M. Eames,	26	Compositor,	Reading,	Leonard T. and Emma,	of the Gospel, Reading
June 1	James Christopher Carter,	28	Shoemaker,	Sackville, N. B.	Charles and Jane,	Edward Manning, Minister
	Henrietta Langille,	27	At home,	Nova Scotia,	David and Ann,	of the Gospel, Reading
" 9	Frank Lee Edgerly,	25	Undertaker,	Lovell, Me.,	Orrin B. and Abby F.,	Nelson B. Jones, Pastor Mattapan
	Gertrude L. Bessom,	28	At home,	Lynn,	Charles F. and Frances,	Baptist Church, Hyde Park
" 26	Thomas Thornton,	28	Laborer,	Ireland,	John and Nora,	Rev. Wm. T. O'Connor, Asst.,
	Mary Fearick,	27	At home,	Ireland,	Patrick and Margaret,	147 Albion street, Wakefield
July 20	Horace W. Whittle,	29	Baggage Master,	[Me., Springvale, Sanford,	Ira and Abbie,	Frederick John Gauld,
	Edith Marie Oertel,	29	At home,	Waupaca, Wis.,	Gustavus and Sarah,	Clergyman, Reading
Aug. 10	Fred W. Carter,	21	Trader,	Wilmington,	Walter D. and Mary E.,	Samuel A. Bragg, Minister
	Sadie L. Gilson,	19	At home,	Westford,	Edwin B. and Kate,	of the Gospel, Reading
" 11	Patrick Leary,	30	Railroad Employe,	Ireland,	Patrick and Mary,	Louis Guertin, C. S. C., Visiting
	Nellie Murray,	25	Domestic,	Ireland,	Patrick and Ellen,	Priest, 34 Holyoke St., Camb.
Aug. 18	Jeffrey Smrrette,	29	Painter,	Nova Scotia,	Matthew and Elizabeth,	Rev. W. T. O'Connor, Asst. Rec. St.
	Sarah Smrrette,	30	Vamper,	Nova Scotia,	John and Fannie,	Josephs, 147 Albion st., Wakefield
" 25	Frank W. Hunt,	20	Clerk,	[Dist., Lynn,	Charles W. and Mary A.,	Frederic J. Gauld, Clergyman,
	Mabel Gertrude Dockendorff,	20	Stenographer,	Boston, Dorchester	William O. and Lydia,	Reading
" 30	John Beavens Lewis,	30	Clergyman.	Reading,	John B., Jr., and Harriet A.,	Frank S. Hunnewell, Clergyman,
	Annie Olive Pearson,	30	Teacher,	Reading,	S. G. Bradley and Hepsibeth,	Reading

Sept.	1	Chester B. Rogers.	28	Machinist,	Reading, [N. B.,	Charles G. and Julia A.,	Edward A. Manning, Minister of the Gospel, Reading
		Annie R. Miner.	25	Housekeeper,	Westmoreland Point,	William and Catherine,	
,,	1	Clarence C. Smith,	26	Grocer's Clerk,	Woodville, N. H.,	Samuel and Julia,	Frederic J. Gauld, Clergyman, Reading
		Agnes McMath,	28	Housekeeper,	Glasgow, Scotland,	John and Agnes,	
"	8	Philip M. Murray,	30	Painter,	Arlington,	John and Ellen,	Josiah H. Tilton, Clergyman, Reading
		Margaret D. Curran,	22	Necktie Maker,	South Boston,	Henry and Annie H.,	
"	8	Charles Truesdell Fife,	29	Steam Fitter,	Clinton, Iowa,	Alexander and Mary L.,	W. H. Allen, Minister of the Gospel, Eastham
		Cynthia Alice Horton,	24	At home,	Eastham,	Reuben H. and Cynthia A.,	
"	9	Henry A. Bloom,	26	Clerk.	South Boston,	Alexander and Caroline F.,	Albert P. Davis, Pastor Cong'l church, Wakefield
		Essie M. Kingman,	26	Saleswoman,	Wakefield,	Arthur H. and Martha R.,	
"	14	Edward Emery Brown,	23	Clerk,	Reading,	H. Walter and Ella,	N. R. Everts, Baptist Minister, Wakefield
		Annie Ethelind Hodgkins,	20	At home,	Medford,	Fitz and Annie M.,	
Oct.	10	Edward F. Bird,	23	Shoemaker,	Southville,	Francis and Celinda,	Samuel A. Bragg, Minister of the Gospel, Reading
		Louise Langelier,	19	Shoeworker,	Marlborough,	Joseph and Harriet,	
"	11	Walter Shepard,	26	Insurance Agent,	Marblehead,	Warren S. and Louisa A.	George A. Gordon, Minister of the Gospel, Boston
		Claudia M. Russell,	26	At home,	Charlestown,	Frank and Maria L.,	
"	11	Newell H. Hawes,	24	Machinist,	Reading,	Newell B. and Juliette,	Rufus P. Hibbard, Pastor Trinity Cong. Ch., Gloucester
		Bertha Estelle Blatchford,	21	At home,	Gloucester,	Frank and Eliza C.,	
"	14	Wilfred A. Bancroft,	25	Bookkeeper,[clerk,	Reading,	Wm. Hazen and Sarah A.,	John B. Lewis, Clergyman, Mill River
		Fannie I. Hatfield,	23	P. O. Money Order	Cambridge,	Sheridan L. and Anna E.,	
"	16	William C. McKinley,	43	Map Maker,	Williamsburg,	William J. and Mary,	Rev. J. E. Millerick, Catholic Priest, Wakefield
		Sarah A. Bradley,	43		New York city, N. Y.,	Charles and Margaret,	
"	16	Israel Melbourne Lovitt,	35	Physician,	Yarmouth, N. S.,	Wm. D. and Catherine M.,	Rev. J. E. Millerick, Catholic Priest, Wakefield
		Agnes Hannah Forbes,	34	At home,	Reading,	Michael and Mary,	
Nov.	1	Albert R. Kezer,	28	Baggage Master,	Newburyport,	Frederick A. and Agnes M.,	George E. Freeman, Pastor Cong'l Church, Lynnfield
		Ethel P. Henfield,	22	Stenographer,	Lynnfield,	Robert S. and Elma J.	
"	5	John C. Reid,	26	Laundryman,	Truro, N. S.,	Kenneth and Jessie,	Thomas Sims, Minister of Religion, Melrose
		Daisy Letitia Grant,	24	At home,	Stoneham,	Charles M. and Viola,	
"	9	David M. Wilkinson,	35	Clerk,	Stoneham,	Isaac and Margaret,	Tillman B. Johnson, Clergyman, Lynn
		Rachael A. Wentworth,	23	Box Maker,	South Berwick, Me.,	Albert F. and Mary,	
"	10	Alfred N. Theobald,	29	Box Maker,	Woburn,	Joseph and Emma,	Henry H. French. Clergyman, Malden
		Amy E. Grant,	23	At home,	Stoneham,	Charles M. and Viola M.,	
"	14	Chester Kidder Wakefield,	26	Butcher,	Reading,	Charles and Mary A.,	Robert Wallace, Pastor First Cong'l church, Somerville
		Florence Morse Flocton,	20	At home,	Salem,	John M. and Emma M.,	
"	16	John A. H. McDonald,	20	Painter,	Nova Scotia,	A. Lauchlin and Rachael,	F. S. Hunnewell, Clergyman, Reading
		Annie I. Scott,	22	At home,	Nova Scotia,	William and Martha,	
"	23	Augustus Surrette,	23	Rubber Worker,	Nova Scotia,	Michael and Mary Ann,	Rev. James McNeff, Clergyman, 147 Albion street, Wakefield
		Annie Le Fave,	20	Domestic,	Nova Scotia,	John and Maggie,	
"	30	James A. Melvin,	39	Car Trainer,	Boston,	James and Catherine,	George N. Howard, Clergyman, Melrose
		Gertrude Geraldine Dexter,	29	At home,	Brooklyn, N. S.,	Nathaniel and Charlotte,	
Dec.	5	Edward Bailey,	23	Salesman,	St. Andrews, N. B.,	John and Jane,	James C. Young, Clergyman, 456 Bennington St., E. Boston
		Janet C. P. Stockdale,	20	Saleswoman,	Scotland,	Nathaniel and Janet C.,	
"	5	Melvin C. Dalton,	23	Motorman,	Boston.Roxbury Dist.,	Melvin C. and Theresa,	N. R. Everts, Baptist Minister, Wakefield
		Susie M. Bryant,	23	At home,	Stoneham,	Loton W. and Maria L.	
"	11	Michael McCarthy,	30	Hostler,	Ireland,	Daniel and Catherine,	Rev. J. F. McNeff, Clergyman, 147 Albion street, Wakefield
		Margaret Doherty,	25	Domestic,	Woburn,	John and Margaret,	
"	27	Albert Henry Morris,	25	Conductor,	Portland, Me.,	William A. and Elizabeth F.,	F. S. Hunnewell, Clergyman, Reading
		Jennet Melissa Hoffman,	25	At home,	Bath, Me.,	William and Melinda,	

Whole number of marriages, 45. Nativity of persons married: American-born, 63—males, 31; females, 32. Foreign-born, 27—males, 14; females, 13. First marriage of 38 males and 44 females; second marriage of 7 males and 1 female. Age—Number of persons from 50 to 60, 1; 40 to 50, 5; 30 to 40, 15; 20 to 30, 66; under 20, 3.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN READING IN THE YEAR 1898.

DATE.	NAME.	AGE			NAMES OF PARENTS. OR HUSBAND.	DISEASE OR CAUSE OF DEATH.
Jan. 6	Matilda (Curtis) Weston,	53	11	21	Granville S. Weston,	Broncho Pneumonia.
" 6	Mehitable F. (Avery) Adams,	83	9	9	Isaac and Sallie Foster,	Old age.
" 8	Caroline Hall Woodward,	79	3	22	James Woodward,	Meningitis.
" 16	John B. Weston,	79	10	6	David and Lucinda Boutelle,	Valvular Disease of the Heart.
" 21	Olive S. Wentworth Knight,	73	—	7	Erastus Knight,	Cancer.
" 23	Golden H. H. Marshall,	2	1	—	Avard W. and Thamar Y. Young,	Meningitis with Pneumonia.
" 28	Henrietta (Brooks) Holden,	67	2	14	James W. Brooks and Rebecca Wade,	Pneumonia.
Feb. 4	Charles J. McKillop,	—	3	15	John C. and Annie C. McCall,	Gastro Duodenal Catarrh.
" 8	Simeon Moore Marshall,	54	3	12	Herbert and Mary Perham,	Cerebral Hemorrhage.
" 15	Lucy R. (Hatch) Roberts,	72	9	25	James W. Roberts,	Apoplexy.
" 16	Francis O. Dewey,	74	7	24	Osman and Betsey Perley,	Myocarditis, Pleurisy with effusion.
" 16	George F. Blaney,	62	—	—	Benjamin and ——— Bowman,	Hemiplegia.
" 17	List r Fielding,	—	—	24	Lister and Addie Rudolph,	Marasmus.
" 17	L. George Richardson,	61	4	20	Loammi and Abigail,	Apoplexy.
" 22	Dudley Melendy,	76	8	5	Samuel and Hannah Pierce,	Broncho pneumonia.
" 26	Caroline J. (Leach) Ruggles,	80	—	18	Ira White Ruggles,	Pneumonia.
" 27	Elizabeth (Damon) Wakefield,	80	7	8	Frederick Wakefield,	Pneumonia.
Mar. 1	Amraphel S. Stevens,	66	5	14	George G. and Harriet Russell,	Apoplexy.
" 8	Ira White Ruggles,	80	8	5	Samuel T. and Almira White,	Pneumonia.
" 13	Sarah A. (Ham) Collyer,	85	5	29	Richard S. and Jernsha Johnson,	Tuberculosis.
" 15	Michael Hennessey,	55	11	—	James and Mary Burns,	Intestinal Obstruction.
" 18	Henry M. Brown,	64	11	4	Jedde and Sophia Bancroft,	Perforating Ulcer of Stomach.
" 19	Hannah (Hartshorn) Hunt,	86	11	11	Thomas and Sally Swain,	Hemiplegia.
" 27	Sarah E. (Patterson) Gerard	27	10	11	William H. Gerard,	Tuberculosis of Spine.
Apr. 4	Sarah A. (White) Bancroft,	57	4	1	William Hazen Bancroft,	Appendicitis.
" 11	Georgie E. (Spaulding) Copeland,	45	5	13	H. Ober Copeland,	Angina Pectoris.
" 16	George W. Putnam,	83	2	9	Lewis and Lucy Lewis,	Obstruction of the bowels.
" 17	Joseph H. Cottrell,	91	3	28	Nathaniel and ———	Uraemia.
" 22	Jane (Treat) Dole,	80	11	22	Alfred and Lydia Malory,	Valvular Disease of the Heart
" 23	———— Chase,	stillborn.			John E. and Addie Tukey,	Stillborn.
May 4	Jonathan B. Severance, Jr.,	—	4	5	Jonathan B. and Mary E. Collins,	Pneumonia.
" 19	Bridget (Murray) Fluke,	63	3	18	John Fluke,	Apoplexy.
" 20	Nancy J. Eaton) Bancroft.	69	10	17	Wendell Bancroft,	Valvular Disease of the Heart
June 1	Bridget (Burke) Donegan,	65	—	—	Morris Donegan,	Gastro Duodenal Catarrh.
" 6	Kate E. (Perry) Beasley,	37	5	13	George W. Beasley.	Heart disease.
" 21	William H. Parks,	74	8	10	Harvey and Laura Giddings,	Valvular Disease of the Heart
" 27	Elizabeth (Jones) Oxley,	65	1	23	Joseph H. Oxley,	Heart Disease and Enteritis.
July 2	George A. Buckle,	—	—	3	George H. and Kate McCurdy.	Infantile Convulsions.
" 30	Edward Appleton,	82	6	5	Thomas and ——— Goodridge	Cerebral Hemorrhage.
Aug. 3	Raymond Lesure Stevens,	—	6	—	Edward H. and Edith S. Willis,	Cholera Infantum,
" 4	William Hawes,	83	1	18	Jesse D. and Bethiah Young,	Apoplexy,

Aug.	7	Amos H. Foster,	74	10	—	Amos,	Hemorrhage from Bladder.
"	14	Mary L. Gilman,	—	9	6	George L. and Helen E. Miller,	Acute Gastritis.
"	23	Parker Morgan,	84	7	18	Parker and Sally Clough,	Debility from Fracture of Neck of Femur.
"	29	Albion E. Metcalf	—	10	8	Edmund C. and Hattie A. Blake,	Cholera Infantum and Heart Disease.
Sept.	1	Charles H. Lang,	70	5	29	Charles and Lucy A. Hammond,	Pneumonia.
"	2	Lillian J. Hobbs,	1	—	16	Charles A. and Addie E. Sweetser,	Entero Colitis.
"	4	George Nickerson,	—	2	13	Charles F. and Kate Connell,	Gastro Intestinal Indigestion.
"	8	————Murphy,	stillborn,			Charles E. and Frances M.,	Stillborn.
"	9	Susie E. Wilson,	—	1	25	Henry and Esther Dugan,	Cholera Infantum.
"	11	Maria L. (Ferguson), Blunt,	64	11	18	John A. Blunt,	Dilatation of the Heart.
"	14	Frances M. (Dooling) Murphy,	33	11	—	Charles E. Murphy.	Pyemia.
"	30	Levi Abbott,	76	10	3	Levi and ———— Tidd.	Paralysis of the Heart.
Oct.	1	Not named, Devine,	—	—	2½	Thomas H. and Josephine Miner,	Venous Engorgement.
"	2	Walter B. Mears,	45	9	22	William and Almira H. Pierce,	Pneumonia.
"	10	John S. Ellenwood,	55	4	23	Samuel and Hannah Saunders,	Consumption of Lungs.
"	11	Joseph A. Smith,	67	7	20	Andrew G. and Martha L. Hanscom,	Valvular Disease of the Heart.
"	15	Mary A. (Watson) Lindsay,	77	1	6	James Lindsay.	Heart Failure.
"	29	Edward C. Nichols,	66	9	9	Reuben and Joanna Bullard,	Cancer of the Bladder.
"	29	Ebenezer Reed,	77	11	4	Ebenezer and Elanor Bowles,	Strangulated Hernia.
Nov.	2	Dorinda R. (Perry) Pratt,	76	10	—	Obadiah and Martha Tenney,	Angina Pectoris.
"	4	Frederick O. Poock,	58	1	17	Henry C. and Mary J.,	
"	6	John W. Good,	58	3	7	Abram and Margaret Ferrin,	Blood Poisoning.
"	6	Nancy M. (Taggart) Twombly,	73	7	9	John and Betsey Caldwell,	Gastro Intestinal Catarrh.
"	7	Eben Beard,	77	4	17	Ebenezer and Betsey Frost.	
"	12	James Wight,	74	2	15	Benjamin and Susan Ridley,	Apoplexy.
"	13	Sophia (Buzzell) Banfill,	63	0	7	William H. C. Banfill,	Valvular disease of the Heart.
"	20	Annie M. (Ballard) Coney,	40	5	8	Charles S. Coney,	Placenta Previa.
"	21	Henry H. Richardson,	79	7	—	Josiah and Martha Wentworth,	Cerebral Softening.
"	26	Mathew Hanley,	74	4	14	Not Known,	Lost at sea with Steamer City of Portland.
Dec.	8	Minnesota Viola Banfill Leach,	27	4	5	George B. Leach,	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
"	10	William T. Temple,	87	2	28	Daniel and Sally Beard,	Apoplexy.
"	15	Elsie F. (Cole) Gill,	37	9	21	George E. Gill,	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
"	25	Emma T. Leathe,	32	3	28	Charles B. and Clara A.,	Suicide by drowning during attack of Insanity.
"	28	Paul G. Freeman,	1	8	25	James A. and Annie G. Jones,	Meningitis.
"	30	Mary A. (Lang) Clark,	76	6	—	Samuel and Lydia Thurber,	Cerebral Hemorrhage.

Whole number of deaths registered, 76. Males, 42; females, 34. Nativity: American-born, 66—males, 38; females, 28. Foreign-born, 9—males, 4; females, 5; one not reported. Ages: Over 90, 1; 80 to 90, 12; 70 to 80, 19; 60 to 70, 13; 50 to 60, 7; 40 to 50, 3; 30 to 40, 4; 20 to 30, 2; 10 to 20, 0; 1 to 10, 3; under one year 12.

DOGS LICENSED IN THE YEAR 1898.

Whole number licenses issued			194
For males, 169 at $2 each	$338 00		
" Females, 25 at $5 each	125 00		
	$463 00		
Less fees for 194 licenses at 20 cents each .	38 80		
			$424 20
1898, June 1st, paid J. O. Hayden, county treasurer	$138 60		
1898, December 1st, paid J. O. Hayden, county treasurer	285 60		
			$424 20

JAMES REID, *Town Clerk.*

Roll of Honor.

Men of Reading in Spanish-American War, 1898.

Major George F. Dow,
Sergt. A. G. Oliver,
Corp. E. O. Dewey,
Corp. W. A. Haley,
Corp. W. I. Broad,
**Corp.* Edw. D. Brown,
Arthur F. Austin,
Charles H. Babb,
John R. Bancroft,
Harry A. Bloom,
George Card,
E. J. E. Chadbourne,
George O. Copeland,
Alfred W. Ellis,
J. A. Haley,
H. B. McIntire,
C. E. Mellen,
Ralph Milbury,
Ernest Nowell,
Edward O'Brien,
Charles W. Parker,
John Robertson,
John Stock,
Walter I. Sweetser,
Edward S. Taylor,
Fred C. Thistle.

*Deceased.

SELECTMEN'S GENERAL REPORT.

For Fiscal Year of 1898—Ending Dec. 31st.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Reading:

Under appropriate headings, we herewith submit the following report for your consideration and acceptance.

Department of Streets.

While we have not had the customary number of special appropriations with which to deal, yet the volume of work in this department has aggregated quite as large as in recent years, and it has been found necessary to overdraw the regular appropriations for "Highways" and the "clearing away of snow." We regret this necessity; but, owing to severe storms of rain and snow occurring in the Spring and Fall, and considering the safety and convenience of the public, it seemed only wise and expedient to use our best judgment in the matter, feeling certain of your approval.

We wish, especially, to call your attention to the need for repairing Haven Street hill, an appropriation for which we have asked in the warrant for Town Meeting.

We have been unable to extend Valley Street as we were instructed to do, because we have been unable to make satisfactory terms with the owners of the land we had in mind when we reported to the Town.

We have changed the name of Valley Street to "VINE" Street; and have made a proper record of same.

Our report of the laying out of Howard Place as a public way will be presented to the Town once more, at the forthcoming

March meeting. We suggest your careful consideration of this subject.

Reports regarding other new streets will also be brought before you at the same meeting.

Remarks and Suggestions.

It is evident to the Board of Selectmen that the Town will be soon compelled to seek other sources for street building material, and for repairs, in the immediate future; for conveniently located gravel beds are being fast depleted. The use of crushed stone or kindred material would seem to be imperative.

We therefore suggest that instructions be given the incoming Board of Selectmen to investigate this subject and report at some future meeting.

Law Suits Against the Town.

Cases of Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Acct. of Henry H. Nowell) vs.Town of Reading; and Ipswich Mills vs. Town of Reading, are still pending in Court, in charge of the Town's attorneys, and we have nothing new to report.

Drinking Fountain.

Agreeably to the Town's vote at the last Annual Town Meeting, we have caused to be erected, at the southerly end of the Common, a Drinking Fountain, which has demonstrated by its convenience during the summer months that it has been a wise expenditure of money.

Land.

Regarding the land on the easterly side of John Street:—Owing to our inability to arrange satisfactory terms with a would-be purchaser, we have not complied with the Town's instructions to sell the same.

The statements of department finances will be found on succeeding pages; they have been carefully compiled, and accurately

transcribed. We trust that they will be found satisfactory, and not adversely criticized.

We recommend the following appropriations for the year:

Salaries of Town Officers	$3,300 00
Support of Poor	3,800 00
Soldiers' Relief	700 00
State and Military Aid	2,300 00
Abatement of Taxes	500 00
Printing	500 00
Town Office	200 00
Election Expenses	250 00
Highways, Bridges and Repairs of Sidewalks	5,500 00
Concrete Sidewalks and Edgestones (abuttors paying one-half)	500 00
Concrete Gutters, Crosswalks and Paved Gutters	700 00
Repairs of Concrete	200 00
Removing Snow and Ice	1,500 00
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,500 00
Care and Improvement of the Common, Elm Park and Mayall Park	150 00
Forest Fires	150 00
Interest	600 00

WM. I. RUGGLES,
JAMES P. CLEMENT,
GEORGE A. SHACKFORD,
Selectmen.

SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT.

SALARIES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Appropriation		$3,300 00
EXPENDED.		
James Reid, Town Clerk to Jan. 1, 1899 .	$75 00	
James Reid, Clerk Board of Registrars Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899 . .	40 00	
Charles W. Lee, Salary Selectman and Overseer of the Poor to March 8, 1898	41 67	
Wm. I. Ruggles, Salary Selectman and Overseer of the Poor Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899	299 99	
James P. Clement, Salary Selectman and Overseer of the Poor Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899	250 00	
Geo. A. Shackford, Salary Selectman and Overseer of the Poor March 7, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899	208 33	
E. N. Hunt, Salary Auditor 1897 . .	33 34	
W. M. Scott, Salary Auditor 1897 . .	33 33	
A. P. Dane, Salary Auditor 1897 . .	33 33	
Geo. L. Flint, Moderator March 7, 1898 .	10 00	
Henry Robinson, Salary Electric Light Commissioner July 1, 1897, to Jan. 1, 1899.	150 00	
A. Newell Howes, Salary Electric Light Commissioner Jan. 1, 1897, to Jan. 1, 1899	200 00	
J. H. Carleton, Salary Electric Light Commissioner March 1, 1897, to March 1, 1898	100 00	
Amount carried forward . .	$1,474 99	

Amount brought forward . .	$1,474 99	
E. C. Nichols' heirs, Salary E. C. Nichols as Water Commissioner Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899, ...	50 00	
C. L. Martin, Salary Water Commissioner Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899 . .	50 00	
H. R. Johnson, Salary Water Commissioner March 7, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899 . .	41 67	
Geo. E. Abbott, Salary Water Commissioner Jan. 1, 1898, to March 1, 1898 .	8 34	
Owen McKenney, Registrar May 1, 1897, to May 1, 1898	30 00	
O. L. Akerley, Registrar March 1, 1897, to May 1, 1898	35 00	
Henry E. Holden, Registrar May 1, 1897, to May 1, 1898	30 00	
Edward F. Parker, Treasurer Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899	400 00	
Edward F. Parker, Assessor 1898 . .	250 00	
John H. Adden, Assessor 1898 . . .	250 00	
Geo. E. Gill, Assessor 1898 . . .	200 00	
E. C. Nichols' heirs, Salary E. C. Nichols, Board of Health, Jan. 1, 1898, to Nov. 1, 1899	20 00	
F. D. Merrill, Secretary Board of Health to Jan. 1, 1899	50 00	
George F. Dow, Board of Health March 7, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899	20 80	
Harley Prentiss, Collector 1896 . .	60 00	
Harley Prentiss, Collector 1897 . .	120 00	
Harley Prentiss, Collector 1898 . .	370 00	
Overdrawn		160 80
	$3,460 80	$3,460 80

TOWN OFFICE.

Appropriation		$175 00
M. F. Charles, stamps and stationery . .	$20 50	
C. M. Barrows & Co., books and stationery .	14 25	
W. H. Twombly & Sons, stationery . .	1 25	
S. S. Bell, manager, electric light and supplies	24 67	
American Express Company, express . .	15	
H. M. Viall, express	15	
M. R. Warren & Co., books and supplies .	12 80	
H. C. Dimond & Co., rubber stamps . .	1 45	
Greenough, Adams & Co., books and supplies	1 50	
H. R. Johnson, labor and material . .	3 72	
Mrs. White, cleaning	6 00	
Henry M. Meek, book	2 00	
W. Bancroft & Co., fuel	15 72	
Secretary State of Maine, book . . .	5 00	
Francis Bros., curtains and sundries . .	3 44	
A. Michelini, floor oil	1 00	
W. F. Cook, labor and material . . .	11 00	
F. D. Merrill, labor	50	
Reading Water Works, water rental . .	1 20	
Frederick Wallace, oil and chimney . .	20	
J. D. Canty, labor and material . . .	1 75	
L. Descalzo, " " " . . .	13 59	
Rogers Express, carting and expressage .	3 56	
G. S. Tukey, labor and material . . .	40	
Henry Stock, cleaning boiler . . .	1 20	
C. L. Martin, fuel	20 20	
Unexpended	7 80	
	$175 00	$175 00

ELECTION EXPENSES.

Appropriation		$250 00

EXPENDED.

Frank W. Parker, screws	$ 30	
W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing . .	42 00	
Wm. H. Perkins, teller March 7, 1898 .	3 00	
Wm. H. Perkins, election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
F. D. Merrill, posting warrants . . .	2 25	
H. A. Parker, distributing ballots March 7, 1898	3 00	
W. Wallace Davis, distributing ballots March 7, 1898	3 00	
F. S. Vermille, teller March 7, 1898 . .	3 00	
W. F. Cook, teller March 7, 1898 . .	3 00	
Lyceum Hall Association, rent of hall .	46 00	
Everett Parker, posting notices . . .	1 00	
Henry M. Meek, election blanks, etc. . .	5 00	
W. I. Ruggles, election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
A. W. Danforth, election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
W. S. Prentiss, election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
J. P. Clement, election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
D. T. Bickford, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
H. Prentiss, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
G. L. Pratt, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
H. A. Parker, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
J. H. Whelton, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
T. H. Barrett, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
J. C. Nichols, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
E. A. Skinner, election officer Nov. 8, 1898 .	5 00	
Amount carried forward . . .	$176 55	

Amount brought forward . .	$176 55	
J. M. Cummings, election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
G. A. Shackford, election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
Fire Department Relief Association, services of J. J. Shannon as election officer Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
Henry Stock, constable March 7 and Nov. 8, 1898	5 00	
James Reid, preparing tally sheets, etc. .	15 00	
Unexpended	38 45	
	$250 00	$250 00

PRINTING.

Appropriation		$600 00
EXPENDED.		
W. H. Twombly & Sons, town reports, extra warrants and miscellaneous printing .	$456 93	
Unexpended	143 07	
	$600 00	$600 00

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Appropriation		$500 00
EXPENDED.		
James A. Bancroft, guardian . . .	$2 00	
Cyrus Hadley	11 70	
Harley Prentiss, collector	459 12	
Unexpended	27 18	
	$500 00	$500 00

ESTATE OF ELIZA C. SWAN.

Balance in hands of Town		$653 63
EXPENDED.		
Cash, fuel, etc.	$277 34	
Balance in hands of Town	376 29	
	$653 63	$653 63

PAID ON ACCOUNT OF EBEN BEARD.

Amount due from James W. Grimes, guardian .		$143 94
EXPENDED.		
Danvers Lunatic Hospital, Board . .	$143 94	
	$143 94	$143 94

PAID ON ACCOUNT OF CHARLES W. KELLY.

Amount due from George E. Horrocks, guardian .		$219 47
EXPENDED.		
Danvers Lunatic Hospital, board . .	$169 47	
Cash account real estate	50 00	
	$219 47	$219 47

DECORATION AND CARE OF SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

Appropriation		$125 00
EXPENDED.		
Veteran Post 194, G. A. R.	$125 00	
	$125 00	$125 00

STATE BURIAL AGENT'S ACCOUNT.

Amount due from Commonwealth of Massachusetts		$70 00
EXPENDED.		
Ephraim Wight, for burial expenses H. M. Brown	$35 00	
Ephraim Wight, for burial expenses Jos. A. Smith	35 00	
	$70 00	$70 00

IPSWICH MILLS *vs.* TOWN OF READING.

(No Appropriation.)

EXPENDED.		
Arthur P. French, legal services	$100 00	
		$100 00

REAL ESTATE—H. B. CRANDALL—ACQUIRED BY THE TOWN OF READING.

(No Appropriation.)

EXPENDED.		
H. Prentiss, Collector, taxes and expense	$73 40	
		$73 40

STATE AND MILITARY AID.

Appropriation		$2,300 00
EXPENDED.		
State Aid.		
Eben B. Bickford	$48 00	
Sarah J. Bickford	48 00	
William Bryden	48 00	
Edmund Buxton	36 00	
Marcus M. Bancroft	20 00	
Harriet M. Crouch	28 00	
Amount carried forward	$228 00	

Amount brought forward	$228 00
Mary J. Capron	48 00
John Damon	48 00
Ellen M. Damon	48 00
Henry Deadman	48 00
Sarah A. Deadman	24 00
Elizabeth W. DeRonde	48 00
Stillson H. Dow	48 00
Charles C. Frost	48 00
Samuel Goodwin	40 00
Mary P. Goodwin	22 00
Theodore F. Gould	48 00
Jaques Gowing	48 00
Andrew J. Green	48 00
Richmond Heselton	48 00
Jonathan Heselton	36 00
Sarah Hettler	48 00
Squire Holt	48 00
William L. Jones	30 00
Fred Kummer	25 50
Charles H. Lang	38 00
William LaClair	36 00
Clara A. Leathe	48 00
Jeremiah G. Lovejoy	48 00
Susan R. Lovejoy	48 00
Gustavus Loring	18 00
Mary A. McAllister	48 00
Mary McIntire	48 00
William H. Mathews	40 00
Louisa M. Monroe	12 00
Charles W. Milbery	8 00
Sarah M. Milbery	4 00
Amount carried forward	$1,425 50

Amount brought forward	$1,425 50	
Horace A. Parker	54 00	
Susan R. Poor	30 00	
Margaret Pinkham	48 00	
David G. Richardson	48 00	
Susan M. Richardson	48 00	
Joseph A. Smith	36 00	
Henry F. Scruton	12 00	
William H. Sherman	72 00	
Helen M. Sherman	48 00	
Eliza J. Upton	48 00	
Janet C. Varney	48 00	
George A. W. Vinall	24 00	
Harriet B. Vinall	24 00	
Daniel H. Wadlin	60 00	
Marcella Wood	48 00	

ACT 1898.

Annie Ellis	24 00	
Annie T. Milbury	16 00	
Mary R. Thistle	12 00	
Ottilie F. Stock	12 00	
To be paid by State	$2,137 50	

MILITARY AID

Henry Batchelder	72 00	
George Thayer	120 00	
One half to be paid by State	192 00	
Overdrawn		29 50
	$2,329 50	$2,329 50

JOSEPH B. HOPKINS *vs.* TOWN OF READING.

Amount raised by taxation . . .		$921 02
EXPENDED.		
A. H. Wellman, Attorney for Joseph B. Hopkins	$921 02	
		$921 02

DRINKING FOUNTAIN.

Appropriation		$75 00
EXPENDED.		
H. F. Jenks, fountain	$40 00	
Reading Water Works, labor and material	18 58	
B. & M. R. R., freight charges . .	1 05	
E. H. Forbes, concreting	5 50	
W. Bancroft & Co., Cover . . .	2 10	
Unexpended	7 77	
	$75 00	$75 00

MUNICIPAL LIGHT AND POWER PLANT.

MAINTENANCE AND INTEREST.

Appropriation		$7,356 00
EXPENDED.		
S. S. Bell, manager	$7,356 00	
	$7,356 00	$7,356 00

CONSTRUCTION.

Appropriation		$500 00
Unexpended balance 1897 . . .		600 00
EXPENDED.		
S. S. Bell, manager	$1,100 00	
	$1,100 00	$1,100 00

NOTE.—ISSUE MAY 1ST, 1896.

Amount raised by taxation . . .	$1,400 00

EXPENDED.

E. F. Parker, treasurer, note paid by him .	$1,400 00	
	$1,400 00	$1,400 00

ADDITIONAL DYNAMO FOR INCANDESCENT LIGHTING.

Amount borrowed on notes . . .		$3,000 00
EXPENDED.		
S. S. Bell, manager	$3,000 00	
	$3,000 00	$3,000 00

REDUCTION MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEBT.

Amount raised by taxation . . .		$1,000 00
EXPENDED.		
E. F. Parker, treasurer, bond No. 4, issue 1894, paid by him	$1,000 00	
	$1,000 00	$1,000 00

SCHOOL HOUSE NOTES.

Amount borrowed on note for 7 years		$2,000 00
EXPENDED.		
E. F. Parker, treasurer, note due May 1st, 1898, issue May 1st, 1896, paid by him	$2,000 00	
	$2,000 00	$2,000 00

SCHOOL HOUSE BONDS.

Amount raised by taxation . . .		$1,000 00
EXPENDED.		
E. F. Parker, treasurer, bond No. 1, issue Aug. 1, 1895, paid by him . . .	$1,000 00	
	$1,000 00	$1,000 00

INTEREST ON SCHOOL HOUSE NOTES.

Appropriation		$ 480 00
EXPENDED.		
Susan T. Howard	$100 00	
E. F. Parker, treasurer, interest paid by him	260 00	
B. V. French, treasurer	120 00	
Hadley Falls National Bank	40 00	
Overdrawn		40 00
	$520 00	$520 00

INTEREST ON SCHOOL HOUSE BONDS.

Appropriation		$1,600 00
Unexpended balance 1897		80 00
EXPENDED.		
E. F. Parker, treasurer, by coupons 1897 paid	$ 80 00	
" " " " " " 1898 "	1420 00	
First National Bank " " " "	180 00	
	$1680 00	$1680 00

INTEREST ON WATER LOAN.

Appropriation		$2230 00
EXPENDED.		
Reading Water Works	$2230 00	
	$2230 00	$2230 00

REDUCTION OF WATER LOAN.

Amount raised by taxation		$7,000 00
E. F. Parker, treasurer, water bonds 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 151 and 152, paid by him	$7,000 00	
	$7,000 00	$7,000 00

INTEREST.

Appropriation		$400 00
Amount rec'd from First Nat'l Bank, int. on deposits		154 25
" " " premium on note		1 00
" " " accrued interest		22
" " " tax collector for 1896		836 46
" " " " " " 1897		589 36
" " " " " " 1898		55 60

EXPENDED.

Discount on four notes $10,000 each, temporary loan	$1,000 03	
Interest four months on note $5,000, temporary loan	50 00	
Interest one month on note $1,000	2 50	
Interest four months on note $5,000, temporary loan	58 33	
Interest five months note $5,000, temporary loan	62 50	
Interest five months note $5,000, temporary loan	73 40	
Discount on two notes $10,000 each, temporary loan	641 00	
Discount on three notes $5,000 each, temporary loan	166 35	
O. N. Jones, interest on trust funds	182 00	
Overdrawn		199 22
	$2,236 11	$2,236 11

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Appropriation	$1,500 00
Amount received for grass sold	1 00
" " " Auctioneers' licenses	2 00
" " " Hack licenses	9 00
" " " Plumbers' licenses	7 00

EXPENDED.

American Express Co., express	$ 7 35
H. M. Viall, express	30
Everett Parker, distributing notices	1 00
James Reid, postage and stationery	5 20
" " recording births, deaths and marriages	74 10
Jason Zwicker, trimming trees	7 00
George Leach, " "	61 22
George C. Allen, " "	28 17
W. E. Coney, " "	4 08
W. A. Bancroft, " "	7 23
Oren N. Jones, " "	74 75
G. S. Tukey & Son, repairing pumps	3 50
Veteran Post 194, G. A. R., electric lighting	50 00
Francis Bros., flag halliards, etc.	9 53
Mrs. J. S. Bond, repairing flags	20 00
Edward F. Parker, expenses as treasurer	6 62
W. H. Twombly & Sons, posters and advertising	10 75
Mrs. S. Porter, reporting births	1 00
J. A. O'Leary, " "	1 50
George W. Mills, " "	25
Julia Doucette, " "	25
Judith Porter, " "	1 25
Wm. P. Davis, " "	25
S. H. Parks, " "	3 75
D. W. Byers, " "	6 00
E. F. Brooks, " deaths	13 50
Henry M. Meek, birth return books	1 50
Rosamond E. Tukey, typewriting	4 25
T. F. Williams, "	1 50
Amount carried forward	$405 80

Amount brought forward . . .	$405 80
M. D. Parker, salary as inspector of cattle and provisions March 1st, 1897, to March 1st, 1898	150 00
C. H. Playdon, salary as inspector of cattle and provisions March 1st, 1898, to January 1st, 1899	125 00
C. H. Stinchfield, labor on flagpole . .	1 00
A. W. Brownell, assessors blanks and envelopes	4 81
M. F. Charles, postage stamps for assessors	3 00
Fred Hallett & Co., dog licenses and posters	3 30
C. K. Littlefield, ringing bell . . .	2 00
C. H. Swain " " . . .	1 00
I. W. Wheeler & Co., new flag . .	48 00
D. C. Temple, maple trees	2 00
Thos. Groom & Co., tax book . . .	3 00
Geo. F. King & Co., register book . .	5 50
Geo. Adams & Co., painting and repairing hearse	51 65
J. H. Adden, copying valuation list and expenses on investigations . . .	40 00
Sam. Brown, guideboards	5 80
Geo. E. Lang, carriage hire	2 00
Henry Stock, care of flag	10 00
A. G. Emerson, labor on guideboards . .	6 00
Bond of Boston, street signs . . .	1 80
F. W. Danforth, painting street signs and guideboards	12 90
Old South M. E. Church, care of clock .	50 00
Wm. Hazen Bancroft, paint for trees . .	60
M. E. Nichols, " " " . .	24
Amount carried forward . . .	$935 40

Amount brought forward . . .	$935 40
S. W. Bowker, teaming poles, guideboards, etc.	8 00
J. F. Burnham, distributing town reports 1897-98	20 00
	$963 40

CARE AND IMPROVEMENT OF COMMON AND PARKS.

EXPENDED.

E. J. Lampro, labor	$1 75
O. N. Jones, fertilizer and labor . . .	13 25
Reading Water Works, water rental . .	12 00
Francis Bros., wire	54
Orne Green, labor	59 00
R. L. Beers, sharpening lawn mowers . .	3 00
	$89 54

BOARD OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

EXPENDED.

L. J. Bacigalupo, rent	$96 00
G. S. Tukey, salary plumbing inspector year ending Jan. 1st, 1899 . . .	300 00
Ingram & Lyons, floral design . . .	5 00
S. W. Bowker, cleaning ditches, removing nightsoil, etc.	20 53
W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing . .	15 00
Reading Printing Co., " . .	1 50
F. D. Merrill, record book and envelopes .	1 75
	$439 78

FOREST FIRES.

EXPENDED.

Albion G. Nichols, salary as fire warden May 1, 1896, to May 1, 1898 . .	$30 00
Amount carried forward . . .	$30 00

Amount brought forward . .	$30 00	
O. N. Jones, salary as fire warden May 1, 1897, to May 1, 1898	15 00	
John M. Cummings, salary fire warden to May 1, 1898	15 00	
C. A. Weston, salary fire warden to May 1, 1898	15 00	
Asa Parker, salary fire warden to May 1, 1898	15 00	
C. H. Stinchfield, cash paid at forest fire April 10, 1897	1 00	
C. A. Frost, milk cans	6 60	
S. H. Church, fire pumps	20 00	
J. W. Manning, labor of seven men at fire .	3 50	
W. H. Bancroft, labor at fire . . .	1 25	
W. A. Bancroft, " " " . . .	2 00	
E. Lampro, " " " . . .	75	
E. P. Bancroft, " " " . . .	50	
H. Haag, " " " . . .	50	
P. Riley, " " " . . .	50	
	$126 60	
Overdrawn		$100 32
	$1619 32	$1619 32

STREET DEPARTMENT.

HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES AND REPAIRS OF SIDEWALKS.

Appropriation	$5,500 00
Material sold	13 92

EXPENDED.

W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing . .	$1 00
F. W. Barry, Beale & Co., book . . .	50
E. H. Stevens, storage	4 00
Mrs. A. A. Higgins, storage . . .	13 50
American Express Co., expressing . .	15
H. M. Viall, " . .	1 30
W. H. Bancroft, painting	70
M. E. Nichols, setting glass . . .	60
Smith & Anthony Co., castings . . .	5 00
Osgood & Hart, " . . .	30 00
H. K. Austin, building iron fence . .	15 00
Fife Bros., " " " . . .	15 00
G. S. Tukey & Son, labor on fence . .	75
John A. Blunt, repairs of tools . . .	15 24
R. C. Totten, " " " . . .	17 18
O. O. Ordway, " " " . . .	12 88
Samuel Brown, " " " . . .	7 05
M. E. Brande, repairs of damage by washout	5 15
G. A. Boyce, repairs of damage by washout	4 04
Francis Bros., supplies	16 25
F. Wallace, "	2 10
Amount carried forward . . .	$167 39

Amount brought forward . .	$167 39
Copeland & Bowser, supplies . . .	19
F. L. Sawyer, gravel	26 67
W. Nason, "	1 08
C. F. Nickerson, "	25 00
Edwin Manning, "	36 84
L. G. Howard, "	18 52
Geo. D. Putnam, "	14 14
Wm. E. Wells, "	5 58
Geo. E. Heath, "	8 70
Frederick Bancroft, gravel	69 75
Emily Ruggles, "	38 94
Moore & Co., explosives	12 75
Mrs. A. M. Barnard, rent . . .	3 00
N. Merrill, granite	53 76
F. E. Newhall, granite	20 86
J. Breck & Son, plow and tools . .	29 70
Horton Manufacturing Co., repairs . .	83
W. F. Cook, " . .	2 50
M. Forbes & Son, building wall . . .	20 00
B. & M. R. R., freight	37 11
W. Bancroft & Co., lumber, pipe, etc. .	104 41
James A. Bancroft, survey and plans . .	66 25
E. H. Forbes, labor and teams . . .	50 22
R. B. Nichols, " " " . . .	97 92
S. W. Bowker, " " " . . .	162 70
Angello Zannie, " " " . . .	26 12
A. G. Emerson, " " " . . .	837 74
W. A. Bancroft, " " " . . .	266 48
J. F. Burnham, " " " . . .	57 33
Parker Nichols, " " " . . .	38 67
H. W. Batchelder, labor and teams . .	57 14
Charles Green, " " " . . .	27 91
Amount carried forward . . .	$2,386 20

Amount brought forward . .	$2,386 20
W. O. Dockendorff, " " " . . .	63 00
F. W. Davis, " " " . . .	38 25
R. B. Wright, " " " . . .	43 00
G. E. Lang, " " " . . .	54 17
C. L. Nichols, " " " . . .	52 00
H. C. Watson, " " " . . .	42 49
Jeremiah Cullinane, " " " . . .	49 17
E. R. Wardwell, " " " . . .	19 00
Samuel Brown, " " " . . .	61 42
N. C. Flanders, " " " . . .	46 98
James Borthwick, " " " . . .	40 75
J. B. Nichols, " " " . . .	66 96
J. F. Ames, " " " . . .	63 87
John Stock, " " " . . .	111 17
William Potterton, " " " . . .	30 00
A. B. Day, " " " . . .	53 67
E. E. Nichols, " " " . . .	80 63
Henry S. LaClair, " " " . . .	108 58
Asa Parker, gravel, " " " . . .	90 51
A. E. Batchelder, gravel, labor and team .	59 22
W. L. Jones, team	41 50
J. D. Canty, team	28 67
H. E. Nichols, team	26 33
A. Michelini, building wall and fence . .	42 00
John Muse, labor	146 64
George F. Gilman, labor	2 24
Alexander Le Fave, labor	43 75
Reuben Dulong, labor	2 00
John Doucette, labor	8 56
Herbert Stock, labor	35 20
John N. Doucette, labor	5 25
Dennis McKenney, labor	19 45
Amount carried forward . .	$3,962 63

Amount brought forward . .	$3,962 63
Albert Green, labor	25 66
Patrick Devaney, labor	7 00
C. C. Frost, labor	20 25
W. B. Wait, labor	67
Edward Gahan, labor	1 75
F. H. Whitchurch, labor	2 14
J. W. Killam, labor	109 58
J. F. Wall, labor	22 95
J. H. White, labor	23 24
C. W. Milbery, labor	1 75
W. E. Coney, labor	39 17
R. H. Nichols, labor	4 08
D. Doucette, labor	2 10
W. E. Beard, labor	12 00
James Wilkins, labor	3 50
T. S. Williams, labor	1 50
Ferdinand Chusong, labor	141 76
H. A. Parker, labor	3 31
James McKenney, labor	67 55
Martin Hulloran, labor	137 28
Wilmot K. Pratt, labor	179 89
Joseph White, labor	46 28
Thos. Thornton, labor	1 75
Octavus Dane, labor	12 25
Joseph H. Brown, labor	140 00
Hiram Litchfield, labor	139 43
Jerry Doucette, labor	29 95
James Doucette, labor	20 03
Wm. Carney, labor	124 45
Frank Castine, labor	142 14
H. A. Nichols, labor	32 99
James A. Doucette, labor	78 27
Amount carried forward . . .	$5,537 30

Amount brought forward	$5,537 30	
Frank Lamprey, labor	43 06	
David Muse, labor	55 22	
Peter White, labor	15 75	
J. F. Williams, labor	13 22	
Thomas Riley, labor	57 36	
Dennis Riley, labor	103 33	
H. B. Nichols, labor	11 33	
M. J. Daley, labor	76 42	
Simon Clement, labor	84 41	
James Muse, labor	40 64	
Stephen Hadley, labor	3 50	
Martin Murray, labor	3 50	
H. A. Morrill, labor	27 50	
F. L. Johnson, labor	2 75	
Albert Dudevoir, labor	28 67	
Overdrawn		590 04
	$6,103 96	$6,103 96

CONCRETE GUTTERS, CROSSWALKS AND PAVED GUTTERS.

Appropriation		$500 00
EXPENDED.		
E. H. Forbes, concrete	$384 05	
Wm. Carney, labor, paving	38 11	
Thomas Riley, labor	33 83	
W. A. Bancroft, labor and team	16 00	
A. G. Emerson, labor and team	31 11	
John Stock, team	4 34	
John Muse, labor, paving	75	
Geo. H. Atkinson, salt	90	
W. Bancroft & Co., level	75	
Overdrawn		9 84
	$509 84	$509 84

REPAIRS OF CONCRETE.

Appropriation		$150 00
Amount received from Peoples Gas and Electric Company		4 23
EXPENDED.		
E. H. Forbes, concrete	$198 67	
Overdrawn		44 44
	$198 67	$198 67

CONCRETE SIDEWALKS AND EDGESTONES.

ABUTTERS TO PAY ONE-HALF.

Appropriation		$500 00
Amount received from G. H. Atkinson		48 25
Amount received from Reading O. F. Building Association		19 45
Amount received from R. L. Beers		88
Amount due from G. W. Parker		23 54
EXPENDED.		
E. H. Forbes, concrete	$174 29	
John Muse, edgestone	93 84	
Wm. Carney, labor	1 75	
Unexpended	322 24	
	$592 12	$592 12

WOBURN & READING STREET RAILWAY CO.

Amount received from W. & R. Street Railway Co.		$10 68
Amount due from W. & R. Street Railway Co.		4 47
EXPENDED.		
Amount expended for removing snow	$15 15	
	$15 15	$15 15

WAKEFIELD & STONEHAM STREET RAILWAY CO.

Amount received from the W. & S. Street Railway Co.		$145 88
Amount due from W. & S. Street Railway Co.		95 91
EXPENDED.		
Amount expended for removing snow and special work on streets	$241 79	
	$241 79	$241 79

READING & LOWELL STREET RAILWAY CO.

Amount received from R. & L. Street Railway Co.		$2 9
Amount due from R. & L. Street Railway Co.		14 58
EXPENDED.		
Amount expended for removing snow	$17 48	
	$17 48	$17 48

REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE.

Appropriation		$1,700 00
Amount received from W. & S. St. Ry. Co.		10 00
EXPENDED.		
R. C. Totten, repairs	$3 38	
O. O. Ordway, repairs	10 25	
Sam. Brown, repairs and team	23 75	
Francis Bros., shovels	50	
E. C. Metcalf, shovels	50	
W. Bancroft & Co., paint	85	
F. Wallace, salt	90	
Amount carried forward	$40 13	

Amount brought forward			$40 13
George E. Downes, salt			2 60
B. & M. R. R., freight			34
Am. Ex. Co., express			50
W. A. Bancroft, labor and team			82 95
W. O. Dockendorff, labor and team			20 80
John Stock,	"	"	32 88
N. C. Flanders,	"	"	42 86
E. E. Nichols,	"	"	66 78
A. F. Newhouse,	"	"	22 50
Parker Nichols,	"	"	18 05
M. Forbes & Son,	"	"	181 47
Asa Parker,	"	"	50 08
Jason Zwicker,	"	"	22 01
S. W. Bowker,	"	"	143 38
T. L. Foley,	"	"	9 70
George Lampro,	"	"	36 00
J. N. Tabbutt,	"	"	13 47
H. S. LaClair,	"	"	23 53
A. G. Emerson,	"	"	31 77
J. F. Burnham,	"	"	50 04
W. H. Nichols,	"	"	2 41
H. M. Viall,	"	"	11 67
C. L. Martin,	"	"	89 75
W. L. Jones, horse			2 33
Edw. Webb, labor			1 56
H. E. Sawyer, labor			1 75
Everett Flint, labor			1 27
Newell Hawes, labor			3 50
Thos. Murray, labor			3 50
F. L. Johnson, labor			3 70
Henry Wakefield, labor			1 36
Joseph Shipskin, labor			3 50
Amount carried forward			$1,018 14

Amount brought forward	$1,018 14
Leon Surette, labor	3 11
Frank Surette, labor	3 11
John Doucette, labor	5 25
Luizi Marchetti, labor	3 50
E. M. Martin, labor	2 14
Alex. Le Fave, labor	1 56
James Driscoll, labor	1 56
C. B. Haley, labor	3 50
R. McCoy, labor	10 50
Geo. Perry, labor	7 19
Frank Webb, labor	4 83
Geo. Lewis, Jr., labor	3 83
Chester Goodwin, labor	1 75
Patrick Burke, labor	2 70
H. W. Poor, labor	2 72
Dennis Riley, labor	1 75
Hugh Bailey, labor	1 56
F. B. Stillings, labor	1 56
H. McIntire, labor	7 00
C. Swanson, labor	4 08
Otis H. Brown, labor	3 31
Geo. Leach, labor	6 42
W. H. Leach, labor	7 78
J. F. Surette, labor	3 50
Peter Gilbert, labor	3 50
James Doucette, labor	5 06
Benj. White, labor	3 31
John White, labor	1 56
Mark Muse, labor	1 36
W. J. Graham, labor	4 28
C. P. Weston, labor	10 70
E. O. Dewey, labor	5 45
Amount carried forward	$1,147 57

Amount brought forward	$1,147 57
Geo. Lewis, labor	7 78
Ira Didvoir, labor	8 75
Geo. L. Ellis, labor	3 50
Clyde Emerson, labor	3 75
M. J. Daley, labor	3 70
Geo. W. Batchelder, labor	7 75
J. H. McKenzie, labor	5 25
Michael Hennesey, labor	11 08
David Weston, labor	7 78
W. K. Temple, labor	5 25
W. A. Batcheller, labor	3 31
R. B. Nichols, labor	31 15
John E. Chase, labor	4 08
C. A. Buxton labor	97
Geo. Jones, labor	3 50
A. B. Smith, labor	88
Frank Castine, labor	12 83
J. E. Wilkins, labor	4 08
F. G. Nichols, labor	4 44
A. E. Batchelder, labor	2 50
J. W. Killam, labor	13 80
H. W. Batchelder, labor	19 83
Geo. L. Pratt, labor	7 00
Wm. Carney, labor	7 00
C. H. Stinchfield, labor	20 13
W. K. Pratt, labor	6 62
F. W. Davis, labor	7 87
Simon Doucette, labor	5 55
C. E. Grover, labor	1 75
Jonathan Heselton, labor	3 50
J. A. Stott, labor	68
Chas. E. Flint, labor	6 81
Amount carried forward	$1,380 44

Amount brought forward . .	$1,380 44
Edw. Gahan, labor	4 86
Dominique Doucette, labor	12 16
W. B. Wait, labor	3 83
C. W. Ellinger, labor	13 22
D. N. Ellinger, labor	5 83
C. E. Shanley, labor	13 22
W. F. Cook, labor	1 95
L. G. Richardson, labor	4 17
S. Q. Brown, labor	3 50
C. B. Eames, labor	4 47
C. H. Russell, labor	5 25
A. T. McKay, labor	3 98
Geo. Beasley, labor	4 08
Geo. W. Beasley, labor	4 47
R. A. Phillips, labor	1 75
L. Livingstone, labor	7 78
A. M. Surette, labor	2 33
H. M. Richardson, labor	7 78
Wm. Muse, labor	3 50
W. E. Coney, labor	14 01
Jaques Gowing, labor	25 67
Alfred A. Richardson, labor . . .	5 63
W. F. Burnham, labor	78
J. W. Spokesfield, labor	2 00
Henry Deadman, labor	1 17
F. J. Bancroft, labor	6 42
C. C. Richardson, labor	1 36
Chas. Miller, labor	7 20
Ephraim Wight, labor	1 36
C. F. Kimball, labor	78
W. E. Johnson, labor	7 85
J. A. Enos, labor	2 45
Amount carried forward. . .	$1,565 25

Amount brought forward . . .	$1,565 25
John E. Connolly, labor	2 58
Adden Hibbert, labor	5 06
John Flukes, labor	7 00
F. M. Swett, labor	4 67
Stephen Harrow, labor	11 42
William Castine, labor	4 86
F. W. Lauth, labor	12 64
Isaac Chase, labor	4 08
George D. Putnam, labor	11 66
Frank Webb, labor	2 83
Charles L. Nichols, labor	6 13
M. A. Corkins, labor	5 06
J. M. Doucette, labor	9 36
J. G. Eames, labor	5 25
Oscar Carlson, labor	5 25
Frank P. Eaton, labor	2 72
E. P. Bancroft, labor	19 45
John R. Bancroft, labor	5 06
B. F. Woods, labor	4 86
J. Cunio, labor	6 03
J. W. Austin, labor	2 33
Edmund Buxton, labor	1 25
C. W. Milbery, labor	2 73
James Muse, labor	6 22
Thomas Horne, labor	4 28
Stephen Hadley, labor	12 16
Reuben LeFay, labor	4 37
James McKenney, labor	3 89
David Muse, labor	5 25
C. S. McIntire, labor	5 25
George E. Gill, labor	4 47
A. W. Hodson, labor	1 56
Amount carried forward . .	$1,754 98

Amount brought forward	$1,754 98
L. O. Dyer, labor	1 50
William Bryden, labor	4 47
L. W. Bryant, labor	4 67
E. B. Nichols, labor	2 67
A. L. Oliver, labor	4 96
Frank Clement, labor	1 56
E. H. Phelps, labor	4 86
E. B. Stewart, labor	67
Albert Green, labor	5 45
Henry Bryden, labor	2 67
H. B. Nichols, labor	5 00
N. F. Merrill, labor	1 36
W. H. Bancroft, labor	6 81
E. Whelden, labor	3 11
W. E. Beard, labor	2 33
T. F. Gould, labor	6 22
A. F. Austin, labor	2 24
Charles S. Fisher, labor	2 33
Archie Day, labor	2 92
Angello Zanni, labor	2 72
Herbert Chilson, labor	14 00
Fred J. Batchelder, labor	7 20
W. E. Cushman, labor	4 57
Peter Doucette, labor	3 11
Hiram Litchfield, labor	35 16
Jerry Doucette, labor	9 05
Charles Kimball, labor	4 67
George O. Lewis, labor	6 83
Simon Clement, labor	12 25
Robert Dugan, labor	20 82
Frank Platts, labor	3 50
W. E. Thayer, labor	6 22
Amount carried forward	$1,950 88

Amount brought forward . .	$1,950 88
John Gifford, labor	1 25
E. N. Kelley, labor	4 28
Clarence Morrison, labor	5 50
L. F. Porter, labor	5 25
A. E. Day, labor	2 62
F. H. Day, labor	4 86
Zeba Lampro, labor	3 60
E. Cloudman, labor	10 69
F. Lamprey, labor	1 75
N. Gifford, labor	2 79
Ferdinand Chusong, labor	17 11
N. C. Putnam, labor	7 59
G. A. Sargent, labor	8 17
F. J. Batchelder, labor	7 68
Geo. Jackson, labor	4 00
H. A. Parker, labor	10 11
G. H. Bancroft, labor	6 13
C. W. Parker, labor	2 43
Z. Antonio, labor	3 50
A. B. Day, labor	8 02
Alfred Ellis, labor	4 50
Herbert Stock, labor	11 86
Joshua White, labor	3 50
C. E. Stratton, labor	8 56
E. E. Rudolph, labor	3 26
Paris Thurston, labor	2 17
Henry Casey, labor	3 36
J. W. Gleason, labor	5 25
Peter White, labor	9 85
Henry Mellen, labor	2 82
Ralph E. Brown, labor	4 48
Baxter Thompson, labor	3 50
Amount carried forward . . .	$2,131 32

Amount brought forward . .	$2,131 32	
Peter Surette, labor	4 96	
Frank Grant, labor	3 50	
Wm. Ellis, labor	5 04	
John Nelson, labor	5 25	
Leonard Chapman, labor	67	
Ambrose Burbine, labor	11 57	
E. F. Hannaford, labor	4 28	
John H. Eaton, labor	1 17	
E. Renning, labor	1 75	
J. S. Robinson, labor	2 92	
Warren Hannaford, labor	4 50	
Robert Hannaford, labor	6 42	
Fred Hubbard, labor	1 50	
W. A. Allen, labor	9 92	
Alfred Muse, labor	5 25	
Reuben White, labor	8 46	
James A. Doucette, labor	8 75	
E. J. White, labor	2 92	
S. H. Clement, labor	5 17	
Overdrawn		$ 515 32
	$2225 32	$2225 32

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen of the Town of Reading:

The Board of Engineers submit their annual report for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight.

During the year the Department has responded to ten bell alarms, as follows:

Feb. 3. Box 62. 9.40 a. m. In brick block, corner of Main and Haven streets, owned by Masonic Temple Corporation; occupied by George H. Atkinson, groceries. Loss on contents, $86.10. Insurance paid, $86.10. Cause, overturned lamp.

Apr. 4. Box 34. 1 p. m. Grove street, brush fire. Needless alarm.

Apr. 25. Box 26. 8.35 p. m. Shoe factory, owned by Mrs. Hattie Richardson and occupied by Richardson & Ford. Damage to building, $350; insurance, none. Damage to contents, $1,481.00; insurance, $1,000; insurance paid, $925.65.

May 2. Box 24. 1.10 p. m. Barn owned and occupied by J. E. Marshall. Loss total. Insurance, $1,000.

May 27. Box 17. 7 p. m. Escaping gas in brick building, Lincoln street. No loss.

July 4. Box 62. 11.05 a. m. Dwelling owned and occupied by Harrison H. Parker, Elliott street. Loss on building, $175. Insurance, $2,500; insurance paid, $175. Loss on contents, $90. Insurance, $800; insurance paid, $90. Cause, gasoline stove explosion.

Aug. 15. Box 62. 7.05 p. m. Dwelling house owned and occupied by J. Wesley Davies, Walnut street. Loss on building, $100. Insurance, $3,000; insurance paid, $100. Loss on contents, $25; insurance paid, $25. Cause, defective chimney.

Aug. 28. Box 17. 12.05 a. m. Dwelling owned and occupied by Mrs. Jennie Flint, Prescott street. Loss on building, $2,187

Insurance, $2,500; insurance paid, $2,187. Loss on contents total; insurance paid, $1,000. Cause, oil lamp explosion.

Sept. 21. Box 44. 9.50 a. m. Stable owned and occupied by Mrs. R. W. Haskins, Salem street. Loss on building, $248. Insurance, $600; insurance paid, $248. Loss on contents, $58. Insurance, $100; insurance paid, $58. Cause, sparks from chimney.

Oct. 28. Box 37. 12.10 a. m. Dwelling owned and occupied by George E. Burnham, North Main street. Loss on building $1,570. Insurance, $3,500; insurance paid, $1,570. Loss on contents, $910.37. Insurance, $1,200; insurance paid, $910.37. Cause, defective chimney.

The Department consists of:

One Chief Engineer and two Assistant Engineers.
Steamer No. 1, two Enginemen and thirteen Hosemen.
Hook and Ladder Truck No. 1, ten men.
Hose Co. No. 2, fourteen men.
Hose Co. No. 3, Volunteer Company.
Hose Co. No. 4, Volunteer Company.

The apparatus and buildings of the Department are in good condition with the exception of the hose, which has been in use fourteen years and should be replaced by new. We are of the opinion that 500 feet should be bought each year until enough to keep a supply of serviceable hose is procured.

Hose Co. No. 4, at Hill End, has been reorganized and Capt. H. E. McIntire placed in charge. It would be for the interest of the Town to erect a suitable house for them in the vicinity of the Chestnut Hill School in the immediate future. If placed on the school house lot, which is large enough, the cost of the building would be all that would be required.

The repeater voted at the last annual town meeting has been installed, and has proved of great service during the heavy electrical storms of the summer, and in a very few years will more than pay for its cost in obviating the necessity of repairs to the line.

Leonard T. Eames was reappointed Superintendent of Fire Alarm, and his report is appended.

An Eastman Deluge Set has been purchased and in case of a large fire will amply repay the outlay.

The Department will compare favorably with the towns about us, and we would thank the citizens for their hearty support, the members for their promptness in responding to all calls for duty, and the Reading Rubber Mills for the free use of steam for the fire whistle.

There are several localities where alarm boxes are needed in order that a quick and efficient alarm may be given in case of fire.

We would recommend for the Fire Department, and for care and extension of the Fire Alarm system, the sum of three thousand and three hundred dollars ($3,300), and hydrant rental, and two hundred and fifty dollars ($250) for fire hose.

FRANK G. NICHOLS, *Chief*,
GEO. L. PRATT,
CHAS. H. STINCHFIELD, *Clerk*,
Board of Engineers Reading Fire Department.

READING, Jan. 23, 1899.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF FIRE ALARM.

To the Board of Engineers of Reading Fire Department:

There has been added to the Fire Alarm System during the year one Fire Circuit Repeater, with four circuits complete and a fire circuit switch board. Also about eight miles of wire, three relays, one tapper, one box, No. 32, Franklin street, and twenty-four jars of battery. This makes an alarm system of thirty-eight miles of wire, two tower strikers, one steam whistle, eleven tappers, three relays, and twenty boxes, all in good condition, giving us as good, if not a better, system than any Town. The expense of the last year has been quite heavy, owing to the large snow storm in February before the repeater was installed, it taking a long time to find the trouble and make repairs. Since then the Town has been well protected.

Yours respectfully,

LEONARD T. EAMES,

Supt. of Fire Alarm.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Appropriation		$6,630 00
Amount received from Fines		2 00

EXPENDED.

Heirs E. C. Nichols, salary E. C. Nichols, chief engineer, year ending May 1, 1898	$60 00	
Frank G. Nichols, salary engineer year ending May 1, 1898	50 00	
Chas. H. Stinchfield, salary engineer (clerk) year ending May 1, 1898 . . .	55 00	
Reading Firemen's Relief Asso'n, J. J. Shannon's salary as engineer May 1, 1898, to Dec. 1, 1898	29 17	
L. T. Eames, engineer steamer No. 1 year ending Dec. 31, 1898	90 00	
Ora L. Milbury, ass't engineer steamer No. 1 year ending Dec. 31, 1898 . . .	75 66	
W. H. Bancroft, steward Hose 2 Jan. 1, 1898, to Oct. 1, 1898	50 00	
Edward H. Crowe, steward H. & L. No. 1 year ending May 1, 1898 . . .	35 00	
Parker Nichols, steward hose No. 3 year ending May 1, 1898	30 00	
Fireman's pay roll year ending May 1, 1898	811 79	
Hydrant rentals	3,630 00	
W. A. Bancroft, horse service, Hose No. 2, Nov. 1, 1897, to Nov. 1, 1898 . .	75 00	
S. W. Bowker, horse service May 1, 1897, to Nov. 1, 1898	240 00	
E. H. Forbes, horse service May 1, 1897, to Nov. 1, 1899	135 00	
Parker Nichols, horse service Hose No. 3 .	7 50	
Amount carried forward. . .	$5,374 12	

Amount brought forward . .	$5,374	12
E. E. Nichols, horse service, Hose No. 3 .	1	50
F. W. Davis, horse service, Hose No. 3 .	1	50
J. B. Nichols, horse service, Hose No. 3. .	1	50
W. H. Nichols, horse service Hose No. 2 .	1	50
Stephen Harrow, horse service Hose No. 4 .	9	00
Stephen Harrow, storage Hose No. 4 year ending May 1, 1898	15	00
George B. Stevens, care of Hose year ending May 1, 1898	26	25
George B. Stevens, cleaning extra hose .	1	50
E. H. Forbes, use of horse	2	00
Reading Water Works, water rentals . .	10	80
S. S. Bell, Manager, electric light and supplies	55	73
A. J. Bancroft, labor and shingles . .	20	54
W. Bancroft & Co., fuel	45	59
W. Bancroft & Co., labor and supplies .	127	12
C. L. Martin, fuel	44	10
H. M. Viall, freight and expressage . .	8	38
American Express Co., expressage . .		40
W. A. Bancroft, pole for Hose No. 3 . .	5	00
W. A. Bancroft, use of pung eight weeks .	4	00
G. S. Tukey & Son, labor and supplies .	1	80
C. K. Littlefield, care of flag . . .	2	00
Boston Coupling Co., repairs and supplies .	35	50
Chas. E. Berry, one pr. harness . . .	12	00
J. H. Wentworth, sharpening lawn mower .		75
A. W. Danforth, use of telephone . .	3	70
Geo. M. Stevens, supplies	3	56
Horton M'f'g Co., repairs	1	75
W. H. Twombly & Sons, advg. and printing	7	25
Amount carried forward . . .	$5,823	84

Amount brought forward . .	$5,823 84
American Fire Engine Co., repairs on steamer No. 1	4 25
C. Callahan & Co., spanner belts, etc. . .	20 50
Fire Dept. Pub. Co., record book . .	5 00
Bay State Belting Co., supplies . . .	2 50
Samuel Eastman & Co., deluge set . .	135 00
L. Descalzo, repairs on boiler	20 37
Rogers Express, repairs on boiler . .	5 34
J. H. Johnson, harness repairs and supplies .	10 65
A. Michelini, floor oil	3 27
O. O. Ordway, repairs	34 71
Merrill Hutchinson, sign	1 75
Samuel Brown, ladder and repairs . .	8 25
Henry Stock, cleaning boiler . . .	1 80
F. Wallace, red lead	12
Francis Bros., hardware	13 12
Geo. H. Atkinson, supplies	7 07
P. McCall, soap	2 00
W. H. Bancroft, labor	2 62
F. G. Nichols, labor	12 90
C. H. Stinchfield, labor, postage, etc. . .	6 12
L. T. Eames, labor, and sundry expenses .	5 20
F. S. Vermille, labor and supplies . .	6 48
Geo. L. Pratt, labor	2 00
H. R. Heselton, labor	2 00
W. H. Trueworthy, labor	2 00
W. A. Bacheller, labor	1 75
J. J. O'Brien, labor	3 00
F. C. Tukey, services as fireman . . .	6 58
W. J. Graham, services as fireman . .	2 00
J. W. Davis, blanket	1 40
M. E. Nichols, painting	1 22
	$6153 59

FIRE ALARM.

EXPENDED.

L. T. Eames, salary Supt. Fire Alarm Jan. 1, 1898 to Jan. 1, 1899	$75 00	
J. Weasel, labor	8 75	
Geo. M. Stevens, supplies	108 94	
Crosby Steam Gage & Valve Co., inspecting and repairs	28 50	
Pettingill, Andrews & Co., supplies	32 21	
C. K. Littlefield, repairing tin roof	1 25	
F. S. Vermille, labor and supplies	43 78	
Chadwick Iron Works, drill	75	
L. T. Eames, labor and telephoning	22 15	
C. H. Hodgkins, labor	15 00	
F. G. Nichols, labor	22 40	
H. M. Viall, expressage	6 02	
C. H. Stinchfield, labor	25 60	
Francis Bros., supplies	4 79	
Beattie Zinc Works Co., supplies	49 45	
O. L. Milbury, labor	80	
American Express Co., expressage	45	
S. W. Bowker, team hire	47 00	
John A. Boyd, labor	10 00	
E. Kendall & Sons, repairs	4 25	
Eames, Sargent & Co., poles	15 00	
W. Bancroft & Co., labor	47 26	
W. Bancroft & Co., supplies	2 93	
R. L. Beers, repairs	30	
W. N. Gray, labor	5 00	
	$577 58	
Overdrawn		100 39
	$6,732 39	$6,732 39

FIRE ALARM BOX 32.

Appropriation		$90 00
EXPENDED.		
F. S. Vermille, labor	$6 00	
F. G. Nichols, labor	4 00	
C. H. Stinchfield, labor	4 00	
Geo. M. Stevens, fire alarm supplies	77 60	
Overdrawn		1 60
	$91 60	$91 60

FIRE ALARM REPEATER.

Appropriation		$500 00
EXPENDED.		
L. T. Eames, labor	$23 30	
F. S. Vermille, labor	17 11	
F. G. Nichols, labor	21 00	
C. H. Stinchfield, labor	13 00	
W. F. Cook, labor and material	3 00	
W. Bancroft & Co., lumber and hardware	22 41	
Geo. M. Stevens, supplies	29 61	
Geo. M. Stevens, four circuit fire alarm repeater	387 50	
Overdrawn		16 93
	$516 93	$516 93

NEW HOSE.

Appropriation		$250 00
EXPENDED.		
Cornelius Callahan, 500 feet double jacket fire hose	$250 00	
	$250 00	$250 00

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF CEMETERY.

Your trustees respectfully submit the following report:

We have endeavored to keep the property entrusted to our care in as good condition as possible with the means given us to do with. We asked for twelve hundred dollars ($1200), and you gave us $900. It took the greater part of this to do the regular work required to keep the cemetery in a presentable condition, so we had but little to make improvements with. However, we have managed to pave one long gutter that has heretofore been a constant source of trouble to us every time there was a heavy shower, and we think many dollars will be saved in the future. We have also built one large catch basin in the avenue just below the tomb. We desire to finish building the two avenues in the new part of the cemetery, and do some grading inside the new wall on Highland Street, and in order to do this we suggest that twelve hundred dollars ($1200), together with the sale of lots, be allowed us this year. We understand that we are to be charged for the use of the water this year, and we also request that may be remitted. We recommend this because we honestly think it is for the best interest of the Town. If you don't see fit to vote this, you must not expect us to keep this sacred spot, which is a source of pride to all of us, in the condition it should be.

We freely give our time, and we respectfully submit as a Board, that having attended to our duties, we are better qualified to know what is needed than people can possibly be who have given it no attention whatever.

GALEN A. PARKER, *Chairman*,
A. W. DANFORTH, *Supt. and Sec'y*,
ALDEN BATCHELDER,
W. E. TWOMBLY,
HERBERT BARROWS,
EDWARD F. BROOKS.

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY.

Appropriation		$ 900 00
Amount received from sale of lots		433 00

EXPENDED.

D. H. Kendall & Co., cedar posts	$ 1 40	
W. B. Jeffrey, plants	13 00	
Charles A. Weston, sod	4 08	
S. Fuller, hoes	5 00	
E. H. Forbes, concreting	31 75	
Osgood & Hart, grate	10 00	
Frederick Bancroft, gravel	5 27	
Wendell Bancroft & Co., lumber and hardware	3 95	
O. O. Ordway, sharpening tools	3 17	
Asa Parker, paving stones and sand	4 25	
Reading Water Works, pipe and labor	55	
A. W. Danforth, plants and labor	7 75	
J. F. White, grave markers	31 50	
A. J. Davis, surveying and setting bound stones	33 50	
F. E. Newhall, bound stones, edgestones, etc.	86 55	
Charles Ingram, vines and labor	12 85	
O. N. Jones, labor, team, etc.	535 99	
Jason Zwicker, labor	180 78	
Geo. Leach, labor	104 39	
Wm. Leach, labor	24 60	
F. G. Nichols, labor	172 58	
V. Cremoni, labor	1 67	
N. Tagnetti, labor	1 67	
Henry Casey, labor	2 17	
Chas. Nichols, labor	2 33	
J. H. Jennings, labor	10 50	
Amount carried forward	$1,291 25	

Amount brought forward . . .	$1,291 25	
Albert Green, labor	4 83	
Fred C. Scott, labor	7 50	
Edmund Buxton, labor	6 25	
W. K. Temple, labor	6 00	
J. W. Coffey, labor	2 33	
Unexpended	14 84	
	$1,333 00	$1,333 00

BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT.

To the Citizens of Reading:

We herewith submit the annual report for the year ending December 31, 1898.

No. of cases of Contagious Diseases,	12	
Measles,	2	No deaths.
Diptheria,	1	" "
Typhoid fever,	9	" "
Cattle quarantined,	5	
Diseased cattle killed,	3	
Diseased horses killed,	4	
Complaints investigated,	14	

Application for license for infants' boarding house, 2.

Licenses granted,	2.
Plumbing permits granted,	96.
Drain permits granted,	47.
Plumbers re-licensed,	11.

The year 1898 has been an exception to previous years as far as contagious diseases are concerned, which is largely due to the improvement in sanitary matters and the manner in which they have been quarantined. The same routine has been followed in the inspection of houses, stables, etc., as in years past.

The removal of the contents of vaults and cesspools has received our attention, a piece of ground having been secured on which to deposit such matter.

On October 29th it was our painful duty to record the death of one of our members,

EDWARD C. NICHOLS,

who for many years served the town well and faithfully in the office to which he had been chosen.

To the bereaved family we hereby tender our united sympathy.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE F. DOW, M. D., *Chairman*,
F. D. MERRILL, *Secretary*,
Board of Health.

For financial statement see Miscellaneous Account, Selectmen's Report.

PLUMBING.

To the Honorable Board of Health of the Town of Reading:

GENTLEMEN :—I respectfully submit you the following report of duty performed since December 31st, 1897.

There have been 96 permits granted to date. The work has been inspected and tested, and left in safe and satisfactory condition.

There has been no violation of the town ordinance.

I thank the secretary, and the other members of the board, also the craft, for their kind co-operation.

Most respectfully submitted,

G. S. TUKEY, *Inspector.*

Reading, Jan. 1, 1899.

REPORT
OF INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS AND PROVISIONS.

To the Selectmen of Reading:

I have the honor to submit the following report for the year ending December 31, 1898.

The State Board of Cattle Commissioners were refused an appropriation to pay for animals condemned for tubercolosis, and had to omit the examination this year.

The cattle destroyed were at the owners' loss. I found a disposition to comply with regulations tending to restrict the spread of this disease.

Six cases of contagious diseases have come to my notice, two of tubercolosis and four of glanders, and in each instance the animals have been killed. I have also investigated many suspicious cases where careful examination has failed to disclose disease.

I have visited the markets, and they have all proved satisfactory; also the slaughter houses and products therefrom.

CALVERT H. PLAYDON, M. D. V.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen of Reading, Mass.:

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor of submitting to you the annual report of the condition and the doings of the Police Department for the year ending December 31st, 1898.

The Department at present consists of two regular and five special officers.

Total number of arrests	61
Males	52
Females	9
Residents	35
Non-residents	26

		NATIVITY.	
January	3	American	27
February	4	English	1
March	2	French	3
April	2	German	2
May	7	Greek	1
June	6	Irish	22
July	14	Nova Scotia	3
August	5	Negro	1
September	4	Swede	1
October	3		—
November	7		61
December	4		
	—		
	61		
Residents	35	Non-residents	26
Lodgers			936

Causes of Arrest.	
Assault	5
Disturbing the peace	1
Drunk	22
Embezzlement	2
False pretences	2
Forgery	1
Injury to building	2
Insane	6
Keeping disorderly house	1
Larceny	7
Non-support	3
Neglected children	2
Selling short lobsters	1
Truancy	1
Tramps	3
Vagrancy	2
	61
Arrest on Warrants	31
Arrested without Warrants	30

FINES.

Amount of fines imposed in First District Court	$ 40 00
" " " paid " " " "	35 00
" " " imposed in Fourth " "	123 00
" " " paid " " " "	73 00
Of this $73.00, twenty dollars was for support of minor children, leaving to our credit	53 00
Total	$88 00
Number of cases in First District Court	18
" " " " Fourth District Court	32
" " " direct to Superior Court	2
" committed by order of Overseers of the Poor	9
	61

Number of persons sentenced to pay a fine	24
" " " committed for non-payment	3
" " " held for grand jury	4
" " cases placed on file	8
" " " discharged	3
" " convictions in Superior Court	4
" committed to penal institutions	12
" " to insane hospital	6
" now in court	1

Total of sentences, 6 years 2 months.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Accidents where an officer assisted		9
Business places found open at night		21
Complaints investigated		97
Disturbances suppressed		4
Defective electric wires found		6
Defective fire alarm boxes		3
Defective streets and sidewalks		5
Dogs (unlicensed) killed		11
Dogs, by request of owner, killed		2
Lost children found and restored to parents		3
Runaway boys found and sent home		4
Sick and injured persons assisted		4
Stray teams found and delivered to owners		2
Requests for police officers		20
Value of property reported stolen	$474 00	
Value of stolen property recovered	$270 00	
Number of officers on duty at fires		17
Town notices posted		6

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I will again recommend that another patrolman be added for night duty.

That the cellar bottom at the lockup be concreted, the walls and ceilings whitewashed, and the iron and woodwork painted.

That a telephone be placed in the police office, which can be accessible at all times for the use of the Town officers.

That a cell or room for women be constructed at the Town Building so that they may be apart from the men.

By an act of the General Court of Massachusetts, the Town of Reading was included in the judicial district of the Fourth District Court of Eastern Middlesex, and on July 1st we took our initiative degree in that court. I am well pleased with the change, and am satisfied that it is for the best interest of the Town and the Department.

CONCLUSION.

My acknowledgements are hereby tendered to your Honorable Board for courtesies extended and kindly advice and co-operation with the Department. Also to the Judges and Clerks of the Courts, for their courteous treatment and assistance in the discharge of the important duty of maintaining the peace and good order of the Town, and securing the safety of its citizens.

Most respectfully submitted,

FREDERIC D. MERRILL,

Chief of Police.

READING, Jan. 2, 1899.

POLICE.

Appropriation		$ 1700 00
Amount received from keeper of jail for fines		10 00
Amount received from clerk of court for fines		73 00

EXPENDED.

Fred D. Merrill, salary to Jan. 1, 1899 .	$ 780 00	
Fred D. Merrill, salary as truant officer .	20 00	
Fred D. Merrill, court fees, car fares and miscellaneous expenses . . .	33 60	
Henry Stock, salary to Jan. 1, 1899 . .	780 00	
Arthur E. Davis, special police . . .	103 13	
Asa Parker, " " . . .	2 63	
J. Henry Orr, " " . . .	7 87	
Samuel Brown, " " . . .	5 00	
F. S. Vermille, " " . . .	4 50	
W. J. Allen, " " . . .	4 63	
Chester McDougall, " " . . .	4 00	
Charles Ingram, " " . . .	3 37	
F. W. Davis, " " . . .	2 75	
Geo. Lampro, " " . . .	2 00	
Geo. Leach, " " . . .	2 00	
S. S. Bell, Mgr., electric lights and fixtures	17 55	
Francis Bros., pails	1 20	
W. N. Tyler, court fees	2 50	
Walworth Manufacturing Co., iron bed frames	6 00	
Amount carried forward . . .		$1,782 73

Amount brought forward . .	$1,782 73	
M. S. Quinlan, labor on iron cots . .	3 90	
American Express Co., expressage . .	70	
C. H. Batchelder & Co., canvas . . .	2 52	
A. W. Danforth, telephoning . . .	7 65	
Geo. A. Carman, care of prisoner . .	5 50	
Samuel Brown, " " " . .	1 65	
Geo. W. Simmons, uniform buttons . .	4 00	
S. O. Aborn, helmet	3 25	
S. E. Spencer, police badges . . .	6 00	
Copeland & Bowser, trunk straps . .	1 00	
Geo. E. Lang, carriage hire . . .	2 25	
F. D. Merrill, use of team	25 00	
C. L. Martin, fuel	8 40	
W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing . .	4 75	
O. W. Austin, meals for prisoners . .	12 00	
E. C. Metcalf, scrub brush	75	
Overdrawn		89 05
	$1872 05	$1872 05

REPORT OF ASSESSORS.

We respectfully submit the following report of the valuation of estates, real and personal, taxed in the town of Reading May 1st, 1898:

Value of real estate, May 1st		$3,646,641 00
Value of personal estate (not including resident National Bank stock)		363,198 00
Resident National Bank stock		34,600 00
Total		$4,044,439 00
Increase in value of real estate, 1898		160,326 00
Decrease in value of personal estate, 1898		156,233 00
Total increase		$4,093 00
Number of polls, May 1st	1,435	
Number of polls added since	10	
Total	1,445	
Increase in 1898	29	
Number of horses	454	
Number of cows	343	
Number of sheep	3	
Number of neat cattle	42	
Number of swine	37	
Number of dwellings	1,155	
Number of acres of land	5,734	
Total number of persons assessed on property	1,255	

Number of persons assessed for poll tax only, 1898	622	
Increase of dwellings assessed in 1898	27	
Total tax assessed on polls and property		$75,669 91

Rate of tax, $18 per thousand.

EDWARD F. PARKER,
JOHN H. ADDEN,
GEORGE E. GILL,
Assessors of Reading.

Total valuation of land in 1898	$1,402,836 00
Total valuation of buildings in 1898	2,243,805 00

In accordance with a vote of the Town, March 7th, 1898, we submit the following estimates of the property owned by the town.

School buildings	$89,200 00	
Public library	3,500 00	
Town building	10,500 00	
Almshouse and land	4,000 00	
Land, corner Pearl and Charles streets	600 00	
Land, meadow, John street	50 00	
Eliza C. Swan, estate	930 97	
Public grounds and parks	500 00	
Cemetery	2,000 00	
Water Works	235,000 00	
Fire Apparatus	4,500 00	
Trust funds	4,775 00	
Municipal light plant	64,900 00	
Uncollected taxes, 1897 and 1898	35,115 89	
	$455,571 86	
Indebtedness of Town.		
School house bonds	39,000 00	
Amount carried forward	$39,000 00	

Amount brought forward	$39,000 00
School house notes	13,000 00
Water works bonds	215,000 00
Temporary loans	35,000 00
Trust funds	4,775 00
Municipal light plant bonds	46,000 00
Municipal light plant notes	14,200 00
	$366,975 00
Total assets	$455,571 86
Total liabilities	366,975 00
Balance	$88,596 86
Property exempt from taxation.	
Church property, valued	$85,725 00
Individual real estate exempted	11,950 00
	$97,675 00

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

HARLEY PRENTISS, *Collector*

In account with the Town of Reading.

Dr.

To uncollected taxes of 1896	$7,611 55	
To interest collected on taxes, 1896	836 46	
To additional assessments, 1896	227 40	
To taxes collected after abatement, 1896	6 00	
To balance over taxes and costs on property sold for unpaid taxes, estate of S. H. Sanborn's Sons	10 03	
To taxes uncollected, 1897	25,150 23	
To interest collected, 1897	589 36	
To committed list of taxes, 1898	75,669 91	
To interest collected on taxes, 1898	55 60	
		$110,156 54

Cr.

By cash paid Edward F. Parker, treasurer, on account of taxes 1896	$8,681 41	
By amount due on property sold for taxes 1896	10 03	
By cash paid Edward F. Parker, treasurer, on account of taxes 1897	16,642 77	
By cash paid Edward F. Parker, treasurer, on account of taxes 1898	49,706 44	
By uncollected taxes, 1897	9,096 82	
By uncollected taxes, 1898	26,019 07	
		$110,156 54

HARLEY PRENTISS,
Collector.

Reading, January 14, 1899.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

We submit herewith our annual report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1898.

The number of inmates at the Almshouse is five; this being total number throughout the year, no new ones having been admitted, and none discharged. Affairs at the Almshouse are in a very satisfactory condition: the health of the inmates having been exceptionally good, we have not been obliged to call a physician during the entire year.

In compliance with the vote of the Town at the last annual meeting, we have caused the Almshouse and buildings connected therewith to be shingled, and have made some minor repairs in the interior, such as painting, whitewashing, etc., making quite a neat and substantial change in the appearance of the buildings generally.

We cannot close our report, nor would it be fair to do so, without stating that a very handsome gain ($433.70) has been made in the net expenses at the Almshouse for the year 1898, due entirely to the very efficient management of the present Keeper and Matron. We would still further add that the State Inspector, who annually visits the various almshouses throughout the state, in his annual report made a very favorable mention of the condition of affairs as found in the Almshouse at Reading.

While we have been able to keep within the appropriation authorized for the Poor Department, we have been constantly reminded that the calls for aid for those outside the Almshouse are increasing, and as many times this is likely to be for medical assistance, we would recommend that the Overseers of the Poor, or Selectmen, be instructed to employ a Town Physician, at a stated salary, the expense to be charged to the regular appropriation.

In closing, we would invite all citizens of the Town to occasionally visit the Almshouse, and thereby become better acquainted with the inside management of that part of the Town Government.

WM. I. RUGGLES,
JAMES P. CLEMENT,
GEO. A. SHACKFORD,
Overseers.

ALMSHOUSE.

Horace W. Blanchard	aged 49 years.
John O. Dane	" 78 "
James Hunter	" 55 "
Henry W. Weston	" 50 "
Susan S. Williams	" 71 "

PERSONAL PROPERTY AT ALMSHOUSE.

Live stock	$461 00
Hay and grain	153 50
Wagons and sleighs	190 00
Fuel	41 50
2 Snowplows	20 00
Spraying apparatus	14 50
2 oil tanks	5 00
3 pumps	14 00
Manure	49 00
Barrels and boxes	23 05
Harnesses and blankets	35 00
Farming tools and implements	144 60
Household furniture and utensils	576 28
Provisions and supplies	166 10
	$1,893 53

ALMSHOUSE.

Amount received from sale of milk	$387 80	
Amount received from sale of eggs	20 31	
Amount received from sale of fowls	53 79	
Amount received from sale of calves	25 00	
Amount received from sale of vegetables	15 00	
Amount received from sale of bag shorts	95	
Amount received from sale of old trunk	1 25	
Amount received from spraying trees	27 06	
Amount received from teaming wood	1 05	
Amount received account police duty	8 25	
Amount received account labor on highway	57 33	
Amount received account labor on snow and ice	50 04	
Amount received for distributing town reports 1897 and 1898	20 00	
Amount received for labor, Horace W. Blanchard	126 50	
Amount received for board W. F. Burnham	107 50	
Amount received for board J. E. Burnham and wife	18 00	
Amount received overpaid O. Q. Ordway	1 00	
		$920 83

EXPENDED.

John F. Burnham, salary	$ 499 92	
John F. Burnham, sundries	40 81	
Mary Burbine, wages	156 45	
Horace W. Blanchard, clothing and cash	14 58	
W. H. Wightman, insurance	57 50	
J. J. J. Gregory & Son, seeds	1 68	
W. F. Burnham, fowl, cow and lumber	75 65	
Frank Parker, shoes	4 75	
Amount carried forward	$851 34	

Amount brought forward	$851 34
Nathan Bancroft, shoes	9 50
Francis Bartley, clothing	6 50
F. G. McDonald, dry goods	10 60
Copeland & Bowser, dry goods	8 89
J. F. Trask, fish	23 20
L. R. Bassett, fish	6 33
Mrs. W. E. Cushman, fowls	3 75
Carter & Swain, cow	30 00
Francis Bros., bone cutter and sundries	45 97
Thatcher Manufacturing Co., milk jars and stoppers	2 40
W. H. Willis, medicine	2 32
A. W. Danforth, medicine	2 95
Frederick Bancroft, lumber	3 33
Fife Bros., repairing pumps	3 60
W. H. Twombly & Sons, advertising	3 00
Oren Jones, fertilizer	2 80
W. A. Hunter, repairing shoes	1 00
H. A. Wright, dry goods	4 05
Charles Wakefield, sundries	3 00
Gardner French, estate, grass	12 00
A. J. Carter, grass	15 00
M. F. Holt, exchange of cows	5 00
C. W. Lerned & Co., disinfectant	2 50
Reading Water Works, water rental	13 60
Frederick Wallace, grain and groceries	305 49
G. H. Atkinson, grain and groceries	234 96
Reading Co-operative Association, grain and groceries	164 65
L. A. Howard, groceries	4 43
A. S. Tuttle, meat and provisions	47 02
Reading Cash Market, meat and provisions	45 66
Amount carried forward	$1,874 84

Amount brought forward . .	$1,874 84	
Peoples Market Co., meat and provisions .	2 88	
W. H. Nichols, agent, meat and provisions .	51 86	
Berry & Rich, meat and provisions . .	39 70	
E. L. Chamberlain, meat and provisions .	19 89	
H. A. Reed, meat and provisions . .	21 67	
H. E. Eames, meat and provisions . .	7 12	
A. S. Nichols, meat	10 75	
Ephraim Wight, labor	1 50	
J. H. Johnson, harness repairs and sundries	4 35	
O. O. Ordway, repairs	6 25	
R. C. Totten, repairs	4 40	
C. D. Wells, horse shoeing	12 88	
W. Bancroft & Co., fuel, lumber, etc. . .	64 55	
W. Bancroft & Co., filing saws . . .	4 80	
C. L. Martin, fuel	76 83	
E. C. Metcalf, tinware, etc.	9 46	
Balance to poor account .		1292 90
	$2213 73	$2213 73

SHINGLING AND REPAIRS.

EXPENDED.

W. Bancroft & Co., shingles, lumber, etc. .	$120 24	
N. W. Broad, labor and material . .	83 70	
R. P. Burgess, mason work	10 00	
W. F. Cook, painting, etc. . . .	32 99	
Carried to poor account .		246 93

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Marcus M. Bancroft, rent and fuel . .	$66 30	
Henry Batchelder, supplies	102 00	
Martha Bessey, supplies	48 00	
Amount carried forward . .	$216 30	

Amount brought forward . .	$216 30	
Charles H. Champney, supplies . . .	12 53	
Elizabeth W. DeRonde, rent . . .	24 00	
Sarah Hettler, supplies	48 00	
Frederick Kummer, board	42 00	
Horace A. Parker, supplies . . .	6 50	
Wm. H. Sherman, rent and fuel . .	127 50	
Joseph A. Smith, medical attendance, rent and fuel	180 00	
Janet C. Varney, supplies	24 00	
Lorenzo D. White, supplies . . .	18 00	
Marcella Woods, rent	24 00	
		$722 83

POOR OUT OF ALMSHOUSE.

Wm. H. Burnham and family, supplies and medical attendance	$204 55	
Geo. H. Daland and family, supplies . .	10 13	
John H. Daland and family, rent and supplies	153 98	
James A. Doucette and family, rent and supplies	34 88	
W. T. Eames, supplies	24 00	
Geo. O. Kelley, supplies	2 00	
Edith Fielding, board	107 50	
Harry L. Fielding, board	169 45	
May Josephine Freeman and family, supplies	161 35	
Frank L. Johnson, fuel and supplies . .	7 80	
Miscellaneous expenses	16 46	
Everett C. Parker, rent and supplies . .	79 12	
Amount carried forward . . .	$971 22	

Amount brought forward . . .	$971 22	
Margaret Sullivan, fuel and medical attendance	33 80	
John J. Shannon and family, supplies . .	8 00	
Elmira Weston, fuel and supplies . .	101 53	
		$1,114 55

HOSPITAL ACCOUNT.

EXPENDED.

Danvers Lunatic Hospital.		
Ernest Hezelton, board . . .	$169 45	
Mary P. Foley, board	169 45	
Sumner McAllister, board . . .	169 45	
Olive P. Roundy, board . . .	169 46	
George E. Stevens, board . . .	78 92	
Worcester Lunatic Hospital.		
Henry S. Buck, board	169 46	
State Boarding Houses, North Brookfield, South Walpole and East Norton. .		
Alice S. Isbel, board and clothing .	179 45	
Carried to poor account .		$1,105 64

TRAMP ACCOUNT.

F. Wallace, crackers, coffee and sugar .	$21 77	
Francis Bros., dippers and repairs . .	40	
Carried to poor account .		$22 17

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

In account with the Town of Reading.

Am't rec'd from Commonwealth of Massachusetts	$17 50
Amount received from Frederick W. Lauth . .	4 00
Amount due from Commonwealth of Massachusetts	$93 33

EXPENDED.

W. H. C. Banfill and family, supplies and medical attendance	$44 00	
Thomas H. Devine and family, fuel and supplies	8 69	
Annie J. Doucette and family, fuel and supplies	17 50	
Fred W. Lauth and family, fuel and supplies	22 12	
James H. Muse and family, fuel	5 40	
John A. Moulason and family, fuel and supplies	17 12	
	$114 83	$114 83

PAID ON ACCOUNT OF TOWN OF MIDDLETON.

Amount received from Town of Middleton		$10 00

EXPENDED.

W. A. Melcher and family, rent	$10 00	
	$10 00	$10 00

PAID ON ACCOUNT OF TOWN OF STONEHAM.

Amount received from Town of Stoneham		$19 80
Amount due from Town of Stoneham		15 00

EXPENDED.

Joshua Bryant and family, supplies	$34 80	
	$34 80	$34 80

PAID ON ACCOUNT OF CITY OF WALTHAM.

Amount received from City of Waltham		$2 00
Amount due from City of Waltham		30 00

EXPENDED.

Mrs. F. A. Carey, supplies and fuel	$32 00	
	$32 00	$32 00

PAID ON ACCOUNT OF TOWN OF NORTH READING.

Amount due from Town of North Reading .		$34 20
EXPENDED.		
Charles S. McIntire and family, fuel and supplies	$34 20	
	$34 20	$34 20

PAID OUT—ACCOUNT OF EDITH M. HOLMES.

Amount received from John R. Fairburn, master House of Correction, East Cambridge—fine received from Charles Holmes, father of Edith M. Holmes .		$20 00
EXPENDED.		
Ellen Beard, 10 weeks board . . .	$20 00	
	$20 00	$20 00

SUMMARY.

Appropriation		$4,500 00
Appropriation, shingling and repairs .		150 00
EXPENDED.		
Net expenses at Almshouse . . .	$1,292 90	
Shingling and repairs Almshouse . .	246 93	
Soldiers' Relief	722 83	
Poor out of Almshouse	1,114 55	
Hospital Account	1,105 64	
Tramp Account	22 17	
Unexpended	144 98	
	$4,650 00	$4,650 00

TOWN OF READING.

NINTH

ANNUAL REPORT.

...OF THE...

WATER COMMISSIONERS

For the Year Ending December 31, 1898.

OFFICERS OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

Commissioners.

EDWARD C. NICHOLS, *Chairman*, (Died Oct. 29, 1898.)	Term expires	1900
CALVIN L. MARTIN,	" "	1899
HENRY R. JOHNSON,	" "	1901

Superintendent and Registrar.

LEWIS M. BANCROFT.

Engineer at Pumping Station.

FRANK F. STROUT.

OFFICE OF WATER BOARD.

Room 2, Masonic Block.

OFFICE HOURS.

Daily, from 8 to 9 A. M. Monday and Saturday, 7.30 to 9 P. M.

To the Citizens of Reading:

We have the honor of placing before you the ninth annual report of the Board of Water Commissioners.

The Town and this Board have suffered a great loss in the death of its Chairman, Edward C. Nichols, whose untiring efforts has greatly aided in bringing the plant to its present satisfactory condition.

He was one of the first Commissioners elected, and served continuously until his death, which occurred Oct. 29th, 1898.

The past year has been the third of the successful operation of the filter plant.

The residence for the engineer has been completed during the year, and presents a neat appearance.

Meters have been installed throughout the system, and the result shows a satisfactory decrease in the cost of maintenance. There is a falling off in the receipts, owing to the excess charges amounting to about thirteen hundred dollars, which are not due until Jan. 1st, 1899, so do not appear in the receipts of this year.

MAINTENANCE.

Received, fines and summons		$29 20
Paid pay roll, labor	$213 32	
S. S. Bell, manager, electric lights	18 68	
Engineering Record	5 00	
L. M. Bancroft, salary Supt. and Reg.	1,000 00	
L. F. Porter, labor	6 00	
F. Vermille, labor	7 00	
Car fares, freight and express	21 38	
Masonic Temple Corp., rent	120 96	
Fire and Water	3 00	
Francis Bros.	13 40	
Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Co., rent	10 00	
Amount carried forward	$1,418 74	

	Amount brought forward . .	$1,418	74	
Paid	W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing .	54	50	
	The Bristols Co., dials . . .	1	75	
	N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co. . . .	72	37	
	W. Bancroft & Co., coal and lumber	5	22	
	Insurance	63	83	
	G. H. Atkinson, soapine . .		08	
	Balance			$1587 29
		$1616	49	$1616 49

PUMPING STATION—MAINTENANCE.

	Received for lime and lumber sold .			$5 92
Paid	F. F. Strout	$1030	05	
	W. H. Killam	624	00	
	Ernest Johnson	546	00	
	F. N. Dockendorff	2	50	
	S. S. Bell, Manager, electric lights .		95	
	Knowlton Packing Co., packing and polish	9	28	
	F. W. Hunt & Co., alcohol . .	5	50	
	Geo. E. Adams, waste . . .	17	55	
	C. M. Kimball, polish . . .	9	00	
	Crandall Packing Co., packing .	1	04	
	Cumberland M'f'g Co., filter repairs and sand	30	40	
	Francis Bros.	19	21	
	Geo. H. Atkinson, soda and oil .	5	14	
	Kidder Supply Co., gaskets and belt hooks	4	50	
	H. M. Viall, express . . .	4	52	
	A. W. Chesterton & Co., packing .	4	97	
	F. J. Dibble, repairs on gauge .	16	95	
	Amount carried forward . .	$2,331	56	

Amount brought forward . .	$2,331 56	
Paid Walworth M'f'g Co., fittings .	4 43	
H. B. Sawyer & Co., oil . . .	15 00	
Geo. F. Blake M'f'g Co., pump repairs	22 03	
Chadwick Iron Works . . .	25	
American Express	2 89	
C. A. Claflin & Co., oil and packing	39 65	
Pettingell, Andrews Co. . .	2 45	
W. Bancroft & Co., coal . .	787 25	
Harrison Bros. & Co., alum . .	27 72	
B. & M. R. R., freight . . .	43 49	
R. &. J. Farquhar, lawn mower .	7 00	
Fairbanks Co., valve . . .	2 98	
W. E. Beard, painting . . .	37 50	
Perrin, Seamans & Co., iron . .	90	
N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co. . . .	2 93	
Chemicals	1 50	
Horton M'f'g Co., casting . .	36	
Sumner & Goodwin Co., fittings .	3 38	
W. B. Fonda, lime . . .	97 50	
Cumberland M'f'g Co., valve . .	21 50	
Merrimac Chemical Co., alum .	294 45	
Star Brass M'f'g Co., rep. gauge .	2 15	
Standard Thermometer Co. . .	92	
Balance . . .		$3743 87
	$3749 79	$3749 79

INTEREST.

Received interest on deposit in bank .	$49 45
Received interest on note . . .	2 50
Received interest on bonds sold . .	49 11
Amount carried forward . .	$101 06

Amount brought forward . .		$101 06
Received hydrant rent		3,630 00
Received appropriation for interest .		2,230 00
Received from receipts for water . .		2,638 94
Paid interest on bonds	$8,600 00	
	$8,600 00	$8,600 00

SERVICE PIPE LEAKS.

Paid pay roll, labor	$10 59	
	$10 59	$10 59

SHOP CELLAR.

Paid Reading Planing Mill, lumber .	3 73	
Francis Bros., netting . . .	50	
Pay roll, labor	7 50	
E. H. Forbes, concrete . . .	18 00	
	$29 73	$29 73

STABLE.

Paid pay roll, labor	$50 62	
W. Bancroft & Co., lumber . .	56 30	
Francis Bros., hardware and paint .	4 32	
W. E. Beard, painting . . .	7 50	
	$118 74	$118 74

ENGINEER'S HOUSE.

Paid W. D. Parker, plans . . .	$60 00	
A. T. Stearns Lumber Co., lumber .	24 00	
Pay roll, labor	183 63	
Amount carried forward . .	$267 63	

Amount brought forward . .	$267	63
Paid Richards & Co., copper . . .	12	48
Geo. A. Stratton, lathing . .	19	95
W. Bancroft & Co., lumber, lime, cement	802	03
Fife Bros., boiler and radiators .	157	30
B. & M. R. R., freight . . .		50
E. H. Forbes, sand	27	70
H. M. Viall, express . . .	2	65
S. S. Bell, Manager, wiring and fixtures	63	77
R. P. Burgess, plastering and cementing cellars	124	51
S. W. Bowker, teaming bricks .	10	50
Reading Planing Mill, lumber . .	134	11
Francis Bros., hardware, paint and oil	355	72
F. A. Brown, laying floors . .	12	60
Geo. H. Atkinson, oil . . .	1	50
W. H. Johns M'f'g. Co., asbestos .	3	75
Walworth M'f'g Co., pipe and fittings	49	16
Copeland & Bowser, wall paper .	8	40
John Muse, cellar	35	00
A. Hodson, hanging paper . .	7	85
A. Parks, brick laying . . .	12	50
Waldo Bros., face brick . . .	15	06
M. E. Nichols, painting . . .	98	55
Bay State Nickel Plate Co. . .		10
H. R. Johnson, floor boards . .	18	00
T. Swan, mouldings . . .	1	80
	$2,243	12
Paid in 1897	869	93
		$3,113 05

GATE HOUSE.

Paid H. M. Viall, express	$1	50	
Chadwick Iron Works	1	00	
Chapman Valve M'f'g Co., valve gears	5	28	
R. P. Burgess, labor and bricks	22	70	
Wendell Bancroft & Co., lumber	11	96	
F. Wallace, V. red	1	79	
Francis Bros., nails		15	
W. E. Beard, painting	2	50	
O. O. Ordway, iron works	3	00	
Dodge M'f'g Co., shafting	7	36	
Perrin, Seamans & Co., iron rods	3	14	
Horton M'f'g Co., machine work	9	45	
			$69 83

GRADING HOUSE AND PUMPING STATION LOTS.

Paid pay roll, labor	$183	88	
N. C. Flanders, men and team	72	20	
D. C. Sanborn, gravel	7	16	
R. & J. Farquhar & Co., grass seed	4	00	
Geo. H. Atkinson, bone meal and seed	5	60	
S. W. Bowker, man and team	14	00	
			$286 84

FILTER.

Paid Fife Bros., fittings	$1	75	
S. W. Bowker, teaming	2	00	
Braman, Dow & Co., fittings		52	
			$4 27

PIPE LINE.

Received for pipe sold		$34 57
Paid Asa Parker, labor	$13 00	
Builders' Iron Foundry, specials	11 34	
Pay roll, labor	243 16	
B. & M. R. R., freight	4 54	
L. M. Bancroft, supt.	100 00	
H. M. Viall, express	3 15	
Chadwick Lead Works, pig lead	25 19	
S. W. Bowker, teaming	7 00	
E. H. Forbes, concrete	3 50	
Walworth M'f'g Co., gate boxes	13 80	
Moore & Co., contract	990 15	
O. O. Ordway, sharpening tools	3 23	
Chapman Valve M'f'g Co., gates and hydrants	110 00	
Warren Foundry & Mac. Co., pipe	269 46	
Balance		1762 95
	$1797 52	$1797 52

TOOLS.

Received for pipe lining machine		$20 00
Paid Dodge, Haley & Co., steel	$4 20	
Reading Planing Mill, oak	1 25	
Francis Bros.	4 00	
Moran Flexible Joint	5 00	
American Express	1 75	
H. H. Viall, express	30	
Walworth M'f'g Co., wrenches, etc.	9 82	
Perrin, Seamans & Company, lead kettle, etc.	51 25	
Amount carried forward	$77 57	

Amount brought forward . .	$77 57	
Paid Julien Friez, rain gauge . .	8 50	
O. O. Ordway, iron work . .	6 25	
G. H. Atkinson, snow shovels .	70	
S. S. Bell, Manager, ever ready light	3 00	
C. M. Horton, wrenches . .	3 24	
Balance		79 26
	$99 26	$99 26

METERS.

Received for meter sold . .		$9 55
Paid pay roll, labor	$482 15	
Monash-Younker Co., fittings . .	6 62	
Fife Bros..	2 20	
American Express Co. . . .	3 65	
National Meter Co., meters . .	4,242 81	
H. M. Viall, expressage and freight .	18 70	
G. H. Richter & Co., case . .	18 00	
Francis Bros., fittings, nails, etc. .	16 17	
W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing .	3 00	
Geo. H. Atkinson, sperm oil . .	1 10	
B. & M. R. R., freight . . .	5 34	
Walworth M'f'g. Co., fittings . .	88 22	
Reading Planing Mills, sawing .	50	
Wendell Bancroft & Co., lumber .	36 78	
Thompson Meter Co., meters . .	314 60	
Hersy M'f'g Co., meters . . .	1,143 90	
Lead Lined Iron Pipe Co., fittings .	21 92	
E. L. Abbott, meters . . .	51 50	
Union Meter Co.	372 00	
Coffin Valve Co., castings . .	235 92	
Wm. A. Lang, meter . . .	9 00	
Amount carried forward . .	$7,074 08	

Amount brought forward . .	$7,074 08	
Lyceum Hall Ass'n., meter . .	18 00	
Paid Boston Coupling Co., fittings . .	3 84	
A. J. Bancroft, labor . . .	11 68	
Chadwick Lead Works, lead pipe .	3 24	
R. A. Stone, meter	9 00	
Braman, Dow & Co., fittings . .	3 15	
Sumner & Goodwin, fittings . .	25	
Balance		$7,113 69
	$7,123 24	$7,123 24

SERVICE PIPES.

Received for pipes laid . .		$453 09
Paid pay roll, labor	$589 91	
Fife Bros., fittings	2 41	
J. H. Johnson, harness repairs .	11 55	
F. Bartley, rubber boots . . .	10 75	
L. M. Bancroft, supt. . . .	100 00	
Francis Bros., fittings . . .	1 27	
Geo. H. Atkinson, oil . . .	7 15	
D. H. Smith, canvas . . .	14 70	
H. M. Viall, express . . .	5 05	
Walworth M'f'g. Co., fittings . .	101 70	
Sumner & Goodwin Co., fittings .	68 15	
B. & M. R. R., freight . . .	1 29	
Chapman Valve M'f'g Co., valve .	1 61	
C. L. Martin, coal	3 30	
Perrin, Seamans & Co., shovels and handles	9 35	
Lead Lined Iron Pipe Co., pipe .	196 56	
National Valve & Lining Co., pipe	44 65	
E. M. Dart M'f'g Co., s. and w. cocks	48 90	
Amount carried forward . .	$1,217 40	

Amount brought forward . .	$1,217 40	
Paid W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing .	2 25	
G. C. Whorf & Co., valve and hose	10 00	
F. O. Dewey Co., lantern burners .	1 00	
E. H. Forbes, concrete . . .	5 00	
American Express Co., express .	75	
O. O. Ordway, sharpening tools .	18 08	
Braman, Dow & Co., pipe . .	33 41	
Balance		$34 86
	$1,287 89	$1,287 89

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Cash balance from 1897 . . .	$6,439 43	
Bonds	7,000 00	
Premium on bonds	730 20	
Interest on deposits	49 45	
Interest on note	2 50	
Accrued interest on bonds sold . .	49 11	
Appropriation for interest . . .	2,230 00	
Hydrant rent	3,630 00	
Water rates	6,409 57	
Service pipes	453 09	
Meters	9 55	
Lime and lumber	5 92	
Fines and summons	29 20	
Pipe sold	34 57	
Pipe lining machine	20 00	
Note	1,000 00	
Interest		$8,600 00
Note		1,000 00
Filter		4 27
Pipe line		1,797 52
Amount carried forward . .	$28,092 59	$11,401 79

Amount brought forward . .	$28,092 59	$11,401 79
Service pipe		1,287 89
Service pipe leaks		10 59
Shop cellar		29 73
Stable		118 74
Maintenance Pumping Station .		3,749 79
Maintenance		1,616 49
Tools		99 26
Meters		7,123 24
House		2,243 12
Gate House		69 83
Grading house and pumping sta. lots		286 84
Cash on hand		55 28
	$28,092 59	$28,092 59

SUMMARY OF COST OF PLANT.

Reported last year	$231,587 93	
Tools	79 26	
Engineer's house	2,243 12	
Gate house	69 83	
Grading house and pumping station lots .	286 84	
Filter	4 27	
Meters	7,113 69	
Shop cellar	29 73	
Stable	118 74	
Service pipes	834 80	
Pipe line	1,762 95	
		$244,131 16

The Board recommend the Town raise and appropriate $3,750 for hydrant rent, $300 for water for drinking fountains, and $2,410 for interest, and appropriate $2,000 from receipts from water, all to meet the interest on water loan.

We would also recommend that $1,000 be raised and appropriated for service pipes, and that $5,700 be appropriated from receipts for water maintenance.

CALVIN L. MARTIN,
HENRY R. JOHNSON,
Water Commissioners.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Reading Water Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN:—In accordance with the usual custom I herewith submit my annual report for the year ending December 31, 1898.

The extension of mains has been 3,139 feet, as follows: Summer Avenue, 450 feet of six inch; Scotland Road, 301 feet of six inch; Deering Street, 545 feet of six inch; Winthrop Avenue, 438 feet of six inch; and Lowell Street, 156 feet of eight inch and 1,249 feet of six inch pipe. Three hydrants and five gates have been set in the above named streets.

There have been no leaks in the main pipe during the year. One hydrant has been repaired.

The following table shows quantity and size of pipe, size and number of gates and hydrants in the whole system.

Location.	Length by Feet.					No. of Gate.					No. of Hydrants.
	12 in.	10 in.	8 in.	6 in.	4 in.	12 in.	10 in.	8 in.	6 in.	4 in.	
Arlington				613					2		
Ash				3,459					5		3
Auburn	223		960			1		1	1		2
Avon				803					1	1	
Bancroft ave			713	1,397				1	3		1
Beacon	269										
Belmont				715					2		
Berkeley				871					2		1
Centre ave				615					1		1
Chute				935					4		
Deering				943					2		1
Eaton				1,528					2		2
Federal				1,252					2		1
Franklin			7,762	40				3			6
Fremont				458					1		1
Grand				815					1		1
Grove			4,099					4			3
Green				3,409					8		2
Gould				621					2		
Hartshorn				337					1		
Hancock				767					1		1
Haven			1,277					4		1	3
High			3,728	700				4	2		4
Highland				1,365					2		2
Highland ave				531					1		
Hopkins				1,747					2		
Howard				1,005					2		1
John				1,478					4		2
King				1,593					3		1
Linden				1,593					4		1
Locust	417			1,140		2			2		
Lowell			2,885	1,249				5	1		4
Manning				500					1		
Main	15,784		1,292	5,323		8		4	15	5	19
Maple				255					1	1	1
Middlesex ave				2,008					4		1
Middlesex st				632					1		1
Mineral			1,745					4		1	3
Minot				1,583					3		3
Mill	850					1			2		1
Mt. Vernon				1,530					2		1
Oak				1,430					1		1
Orange				970					1		1
Parker			662	276				1	2		1
Pearl				2,392					3		2
Pierce				667					2		1
Pleasant			257	1,037				1	3		1
Pratt				329					1		
Prescott			842	1,626				2	2	1	4
Prospect				2,086					3		3
Prospect (private)				334							1
Salem			1,299	1,550				3	2	1	4
Scotland Road				635					2		1
Sanborn				1,160					4		
Spring				576					2		
Summer ave			2,473	2,116				4	5		5
South				436					1		
Sweetser ave				300					1		
Temple				1,426					2		1
Union				693					2		

Location.	Length by Feet.					No. of Gate.					No. of Hydrants.
	12 in.	10 in.	8 in.	6 in.	4 in.	12 in.	10 in.	8 in.	6 in.	4 in.	
Valley	.....	.....	.....	.....	532	....	....	....	....	2	.....
Village	.....	.....	.....	771	....	....	....	....	1	....	1
Walnut	.....	.....	.....	1,117	....	....	....	....	1	....	2
Washington	.....	.....	535	1,630	100	....	....	2	4	1	12
West	.....	.....	.....	5,891	....	....	....	....	3	....	1
Winter	.....	.....	.....	743	....	....	....	....	2	....	1
Willow	.....	.....	.....	747	....	....	....	....	1	....	1
Wilson	.....	.....	.....	.....	265	....	....	....	....	1	.....
Winthrop ave	.....	.....	.....	438	....	....	....	....	....	....	.....
Woburn	.....	1,426	.....	1,319	....	....	7	....	2	2	10
Warren ave	.....	.....	.....	622	....	....	....	....	1	....	1
Railroad land	.....	.....	.....	150	....	....	....	....	....	....	.....
	14,543	1,426	30,529	77,277	897	12	7	43	147	17	125

There were forty one services added during the year, making a total of nine hundred and twenty-eight. There have been five leaks in service pipes, all from defective solder joints. These were repaired at cost of $10.59.

The following table will show the amount of service pipe in use.

	6 inch Cast Iron.	1¼ inch Enamelled.	1¼ inch Galvanized.	1 inch Galvanized.	1 inch Lead Lined.	¾ inch Lead Lined.	1 inch Cement Lined.	¾ inch Cement Lined.	2 inch Galvanized.	¾ inch Galvanized.
Owned by the town.		33-7	4641-8	135-6	870-8	14065-3	367-1	10198-11	1536-8	1294
Owned by individuals.	76	122-10	289	17-6	50	13911-11	78	12677-6	303-6	547
Total.	76	156-5	4930-8	153	920-8	27977-2	445-1	22876-5	1840-2	1841

There are 851 meters in use of the following kinds and sizes.

No.	Name.	Sizes.				
		2 in.	1½ in.	1 in.	¾ in.	⅝ in.
73	Crown	.....	.....	.....	1	72
35	Lambert	.....	.....	2	.....	33
371	Nash	.....	1	3	.....	367
199	Empire	.....	.....	.....	.....	199
3	Gem	3	.....	.....	.....	.....
12	Thompson	1	.....	1	.....	10
3	Worthington	1	.....	.....	.....	2
112	Hersey Disc	1	2	3	.....	106
1	Neptune	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
11	Union Rotary	3	1	2	.....	5
29	Columbia	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
2	Niagara	1	.....	.....	.....	1
851		10	4	11	1	825

The buildings and machinery at the pumping station are in good condition.

YEARLY RECORD OF PUMPING SERVICE.

From January 1, 1898, to January 1, 1899.

Month.	No. Days.	No. Hours.	No. Min.	Gallons Pumped.	Total Head.	Pounds Coal.
January	31	140	30	3,679,440	240	34,742
February	28	148	45	3,470,436		33,937
March	31	160	15	3,707,203		33,494
April	30	132	15	3,149,188		28,709
May	31	150	30	3,333,508		26,918
June	30	159	15	3,615,867		29,289
July	31	190	15	4,654,588		34,488
August	31	150	45	3,291,919		27,055
September	30	145	45	3,152,509		25,408
October	31	131	15	3,048,029		26,196
November	30	121	45	2,888,279		27,555
December	31	122	15	3,083,659		31,330
	365	1,753	30	41,074,585		359,1

This year we have pumped 11,267,265 gallons less than in 1897, and burned 90,711 pounds less coal. The average daily consumption of water has been reduced from 143,065 to 112,533 gallons, and the average daily coal consumption from 1,229 to 984 pounds.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER FROM FILTER GALLERY OF READING WATER WORKS. (Parts per 100,000)

No.	Date of		Appearance			Odor.		Residue on Evaporation.	Ammonia.		Chlorine.	Nitrogen as		Oxygen Consumed	Hardness	Iron	Per Cent. of Iron Removed	
	Collection	Examination.	Turbidity	Sediment	Color	Color.	Hot.		Free.	Albuminoid.		Nitrates	Nitrites					
	1898	1898																
21811	Jan. 10	Jan. 11	Decided.	Cons.	0.60	F'ntly earthy	F'ntly earthy	10.30	.0100	.0114	.58	.0030	.0001	.3920	3.5	.2200		Unfiltered
21812	Jan. 10	Jan. 11	Very slight.	None.	0.18	None.	None.	16.20	.0016	.0090	.51	.0070	.0008	.2320	12.5	.0080	96.36	Filtered
22079	Feb. 7	Feb. 8	Decided.	Heavy & flk	0.50	None.	None.	10.30	.0084	.0078	.51	.0030	.0000	.3680	4.0	.1800		Unfiltered
22080	Feb. 7	Feb. 8	None.	None.	0.19	None.	None.	16.50	.0024	.0080	.48	.0170	.0009	.2640	10.0	.0040	97.77	Filtered
22464	Mar. 7	Mar. 8	Dec'd milky.	Cons. iron.	0.53	None.	None.	9.40	.0076	.0084	.43	.0010	.0000	.4000	3.3	.1850		Unfiltered
22465	Mar. 7	Mar. 8	None.	Very slight.	0.16	None.	None.	16.20	.0052	.0128	.46	.0030	.0013	.2480	11.0	.0030	98.37	Filtered
22839	Apr. 12	Apr. 15	Dec'd iron.	Cons. iron.	Turbid with ir'n 0.90	None.	None.	9.40	.0076	.0088	.48	.0030	.0000	.4320	3.0	.2100		Unfiltered
22840	Apr. 12	Apr. 15	Very slight.	None.	0.24	None.	None.	16.00	.0006	.0084	.46	.0070	.0007	.2800	9.4	.0100	95.23	Filtered
23087	May 9	May 10	Dec'd iron.	Heavy iron.	Trbd i'n	None.	None.	8.50	.0076	.0130	.41	.0060	.0001	.5920	2.9	.1800		Unfiltered
23088	May 6	May 10	Very slight.	None.	0.30	None.	None.	14.50	.0024	.0080	.44	.0060	.0007	.2960	8.4	.0080	95.55	Filtered
23397	June 6	June 7	Dec'd iron.	Heavy iron.	1.00	None.	F'ntly earthy	9.00	.0076	.0140	.45	.0050	.0000	.6400	2.9	.2000		Unfiltered
23398	June 6	June 7	Very slight.	None.	0.30	None.	None.	16.70	.0028	.0108	.41	.0070	.0006	.3200	9.1	.0060	97.00	Filtered
23832	July 11	July 12	Dec'd milky.	Heavy iron.	0.65	F'ntly earthy	F'ntly earthy	10.80	.0082	.0158	.45	.0020	.0001	.5920	2.6	.1400		Unfiltered
23833	July 12	July 12	None.	None.	0.19	None.	None.	16.60	.0040	.0142	.43	.0040	.0005	.2880	9.4	.0040	97.14	Filtered
24190	Aug. 8	Aug. 9	Dec'd iron	Cons. iron.	Filt. 0.90	None.	None.	8.60	.0100	.0156	.40	.0010	.0000	.6840	2.3	.4650		Unfiltered
24191	Aug. 8	Aug. 9	Very slight.	None.	0.33	None.	None.	16.70	.0018	.0018	.43	.0020	.0006	.3680	9.1	.0250	94.62	Filtered
24604	Sept. 12	Sept. 13	Dec'd iron.	Cons. iron.	Filt. 1.10	None.	None.	9.40	.0122	.0208	.38	.0010	.0000	.9840	2.7	.2750		Unfiltered
24605	Sept. 12	Sept. 13	Very slight.	None.	0.30	None.	None.	18.70	.0018	.0124	.45	.0060	.0001	.4880	11.4	.0170	93.82	Filtered
24953	Oct. 10	Oct. 11	Dec'd iron.	Heavy iron.	Filt. 1.00	None.	None.	9.60	.0110	.0186	.43	.0010	.0000	.8960	3.1	.2100		Unfiltered
24954	Oct. 10	Oct. 11	Very slight.	None.	0 43	None.	None.	18.10	.0036	.0116	.46	.0060	.0005	.5120	10.3	.0420	80.00	Filtered
25277	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	Dec'd iron.	Heavy iron.	Filt. 1.00	None.	F'ntly unpls.	10.30	.0120	.0174	.43	.0040	.0000	.8400	2.9	.2150		Unfiltered
25278	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	None.	None.	0.31	None.	None.	18.40	.0040	.0084	.47	.0050	.0006	.3880	10.0	.0110	94.88	Filtered
25529	Dec. 2	Dec. 3	Dec'd iron.	Heavy iron.	Turbid 0.85	None.	F'ntly unpls.	9.70	.0120	.0178	.39	.0050	.0000	.8240	3.	.2250		Unfiltered
25530	Dec. 2	Dec. 3	Very slight.	Very slight.	0.30	None.	None.	17.30	.0038	.0108	.46	.0050	.0005	.3800	9.7	.0210	90.67	Filtered

MAIN PIPE STOCK ON HAND.

132 feet 12-inch pipe.
130 " 10-inch pipe.
160 " 8-inch pipe.
816 " 6-inch pipe.
4 one-twelfth bends, 8-inch.
1 gate, 10-inch.
1 " 8-inch.
1 " 6-inch.
1 post hydrant.
8 plugs, 8-inch.
3 " 6-inch.
2 sleeves, 12-inch.
2 " 10-inch.
1 " 8-inch.
1 " 6-inch.
1 reducer, 8 x 4-inch.
200 lbs. pig lead.

1 Split Sleeve, 12-inch.
1 " " 10-inch.
1 " " 8-inch.
1 " " 6-inch.
1 T, 12 x 8 inch.
3 T's, 12 x 6.
2 T's, 8 x 6.
1 T, 8 x 8.
1 T, 8 x 4.
1 T, 6 x 6.
1 T, 6 x 4.
1 T, 10 x 8.
1 T, 10 x 6.
1 gate box extension.
2 one-sixteenth bend, 6 inch.

SERVICE PIPE STOCK ON HAND.

50 feet $\frac{3}{4}$-inch gal. iron pipe.
18 " $1\frac{1}{4}$-inch " " "
131 " 2-inch " " "
110 " $\frac{1}{2}$-inch " " "
141 " $\frac{3}{4}$-inch lead lined pipe.
2 " 1-inch lead pipe
69 service leads, $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
3 brass solder nipples, $1\frac{1}{4}$-inch.
2 " " " 1-inch.
8 " " " 1x$\frac{3}{4}$ inch.
11 " " " $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
38 lead lined couplings, $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
18 " " ells, $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
12 star couplings, $\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$-inch.

12 service box covers.
10 45° ells, 1-inch, enamelled.
4 bibb cocks, $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
49 unions, $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
63 sidewalk stop boxes.
37 gal. ells, $\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$-inch.
64 " " $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
116 " couplings, $\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$-inch.
50 " " $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
10 " " 1 x $\frac{1}{2}$-inch.
7 " T's, $\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$-inch.
9 " " $\frac{3}{4}$-inch.
1 return bend, $1\frac{1}{2}$-inch C. I.
1 ell, $1\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{4}$-inch C. I.

10 star couplings, ½-inch.
88 meter connections.
11 lead lined T's, ¾-inch.
7 " " 45° ells, ¾-inch.
11 " " unions, ¾-inch.
5 " " R. & L. couplings, ¾-inch.
9 Fitchburg S. & W. cocks, ¾-inch.
13 Fitchburg S. & W. cocks, 1 x ¾-inch.
7 Fitchburg S. & W. cocks, 1-inch.
78 Corporation cocks, ¾-inch.
2 " " 1-inch.
3 " " 1¼-inch.
12 Newport S. & W. cocks, ¾-inch.
3 Newport S. & W. cocks, 1-inch.
12 Gorham S. & W. cocks, ¾-inch.
21 Dart S. & W. cocks, ¾-inch.
3 Newport L. H. cocks, 1-inch.
4 lbs. solder.

25 gal. bushings, 1 x ¾-inch.
14 " " 1 x ½-inch.
50 " " ¾ x ½-inch.
26 " 3-inch nipples, ¾-inch.
22 " 45° gal. ells, ¾-inch.
116 " ¾-inch close nipples.
3 couplings, 1¼-inch.
1 coupling, 1½-inch.
1 plug, 1¼-inch.
10 " ¾-inch.
1 cap, 1-inch.
6 unions, 2-inch.
3 T's, 1¼ x ¾-inch.
1 ell, 1½ x 1¼-inch.
2 flange T's, 3-inch.
4 plugs, 2-inch.
2 nipples, 8 x 2½-inch.
1 ell, 2½-inch.
1 T, 2½ x 1¼-inch.
4 T's, 2 x ¾-inch.
5 couplings, 2-inch.
1 coupling, 2½ x 1¼-inch.
1 T, 2½-inch.
1 sidewalk box extension.

METERS.

1 Nash, 1½-inch.
10 Nash, ⅝-inch.
5 Nash, ¾-inch.
Extension dials.
6 Crown, ⅝-inch.
1 Hersey disc, 1-inch.
1 " " ⅝-inch.

TOOLS AT SHOP.

1 gasoline torch.
1 gasoline fire pot.
28 red globe lanterns.
14 picks.

1 solder pot and ladle.
1 Hall tapping machine and set of taps.
1 forge and anvil.
1 Johnson pump.
1 boiler for thawing hydrants.
1 heavy chain.
1 derrick.
1 axe.
1 hatchet.
1 draw shave.
1 trowel.
69 elect. exploders.
2 tampers.
2 bars.
2 tunnelling bars.
1 diaphragm pump.
15 feet suction hose.
1 hoe.
2 grub hoes.
14 drills.
2 striking hammers.
2 sledge hammers.
1 ½-in. tap.
1 well driving derrick and fittings.
1 set blocks and ropes.
1 set chain falls.
1 branding iron.
1 Parker vise.
1 Walworth vise.
2 Vanderman vises.
2 pick handles.
1 bush scythe and snath.
6 shovels.
1 pair pipe tongs.
1 wagon.
1 pung.
1 spade.
3 pair rubber boots.
22 lbs. ÆEtna powder.
1 bit brace.
2 files.
2 claw hammers.
25 feet 2½-in. hose.
1 battery and wire.
2 Walworth pipe cutters.
1 3-wheel pipe cutter.
1 Hall pipe cutter.
1 Saunders pipe cutter.
2 No. 1½ die stock and dies.
1 No. 2 die stock and dies.
1 Miller rachet die stock.
1 set calking tools and hammer.
5 cold chisels.
4 dog chisels.
4 diamond points.
1 lead kettle and ladle.
2 soldering coppers.
1 crow.
1 6-in. pipe jointer.
1 8-in. pipe jointer.
1 12-in. pipe jointer.
1 steel rake.
1 dry tapping machine.
1 Ashley nipple cutter.
1 2-in. pipe tap.
1 1¼-in. pipe tap.

1 pair pole climbers.
2 hand saws.
1 key hole saw.
1 steel square.
1 bevel.
1 ¾-in. chisel.
1 ½-in. bitt.
1 grindstone.
1 nail puller.
1 2-in. twist drill.
1 express harness.
1 3-16 bitt.
1 washer cutter.
1 extension bitt.
1 breast drill.
1 ¼-in. drill.
2 pipe benches.
1 1-in. pipe tap.
2 ¾-in. pipe taps.
2 24-in. Stillson wrenches.
1 16-in. Stillson wrench.
2 14-in. Stillson wrenches.
2 14-in. Coes wrenches.
1 8-in. Coes wrench.
1 meter testing scale and tank.
3 hack saws.
4 hammer handles.
3 gate wrenches.
4 service wrenches.
1 can for thrawing dynamite.
1 hanging lamp.
1 snow shovel.
1 level.

TOOLS AT PUMPING STATION.

1 12-in. swing engine lathe.
1 8-in. combination chuck.
5 reamers.
3 machine taps.
18 twist drills.
1 Slates cutting off tool.
1 Beaches threading tool.
1 set Lightning Screw plates and dies.
11 machine files.
10 lathe dogs.
1 pair blacksmith's tongs.
1 hack saw.
1 pipe cutter.
2 16-in. Stillson wrenches.
1 24-in. Coes wrench.
1 36-in. Stillson wrench.
1 Packer rachet.
3 rachet drills.
1 set small drills.
2 hand saws.
1 2½-in. pipe tap.
1 1½ in. pipe tap.
1 ¾-in. pipe tap.
1 ½-in. pipe tap.
1 ¼-in. pipe tap.
1 washer cutter.
1 pair pipe tongs.
1 No. 4 Brock tongs.
1 13-foot ladder.
1 20-foot ladder.
1 5-foot step ladder.

1 18-in. Coes wrench.
1 14-in. Coes wrench.
1 8-in. Coes wrench.
1 Billings & Spencer wrench No. 281.
1 Billings & Spencer wrench No. 107.
1 Billings & Spencer wrench No. 275.
1 Billings & Spencer wrench No. 239.
1 Billings & Spencer wrench No. 391.
1 Billings & Spencer wrench No. 74.
1 Billings & Spencer wrench No. 17.
1 Reeces screw plate.
5 machine dies.
1 breast drill.
6 steel engine wedges.
1 Cushman chuck.
1 8 x ¾-in. emery wheel.
1 steel square.
1 Curtis & Curtis pipe cutting and threading machine.
2 hoes.
1 sod cutter.
1 lawn mower.
1 flue scraper.
1 steam flue blower.
1 bitt stock.
1 set bitts.
1 Thompson Indicator.
1 Dean Reducing Wheel.
1 planimeter.
1 gate wrench.
1 No. 4 Centrifugal pump.
12 feet suction pipe, 4-in.
22 feet steam hose, 1½-in.
12 feet suction hose, 1¼-in.
50 feet hose, 1-in.
50 feet hose, ¾-in.
4 lanterns.
1 foot valve.
1 Backers water motor.
2 snow shovels.
1 Walworth vise.
1 No. 1½ die stock.
9 die plates, ¼ to 1¼-in.
1 No. 6 tap wrench.
1 rain gauge.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Report of 1898.

Reading Water Works, Middlesex County, Mass.

Population by census of 1895, 4,717; date of construction, 1890 and 1891; by whom owned, Town of Reading; source of supply, filter gallery; mode of supply, pumping to stand pipe.

PUMPING.

1 Builders of pumping machinery, Geo. F. Blake M'f'g. Co.

2 Description of coal:

b Bituminous; *d* brand Georges Creek, Cumberland; *e* price per gross ton delivered, $4.70.

3 Coal consumed for the year in pounds, 359,119.

4 $\frac{\text{Pounds of wood consumed}}{3}$ equals coal in pounds.

5 Total fuel consumed for year in pounds, 359,119.

6 Total pumpage for year in gallons, 41,074,585.

7 Average static head against which pumps work, 219.

8 Average dynamic head against which pumps work, 240.

9 Number of gallons pumped per pound of coal, 115.

10 Duty $\frac{\text{Gallons pumped (6)} \times 8.34 \text{ (lbs.)} \times 100 \times \text{dynamic head (8)}}{\text{Total fuel consumed (5)}}$ equals.

Cost of pumping, figured on pumping station expenses, viz., $3,743.87.

11 Per million gallons raised against dynamic head into stand pipe, $91.07.

12 Per million gallons raised one foot high (dynamic), $.379.

Cost of pumping, figured on total maintenance, viz., $13,976.87.

13 Per million gallons raised against dynamic head into stand pipe, $340.89.

14 Per million gallons raised one foot high (dynamic), $1.42.

FINANCIAL.

Receipts.		MAINTENANCE.	Expenditures.	
FROM CONSUMERS.				
A. Water rates, domestic,		$6,227 43	*AA.* Management and repairs,	$5,376 87
B. Water rates, manufacturing,		182 14	*BB.* Interest,	8,600 00
C. Net receipts for water,		$6,409 57		
D. Miscellaneous (sales, interest, etc.,)		136 18		
E. Total,		$6,545 75		
FROM PUBLIC FUNDS.				
F. Hydrants.	$3,630 00			
G. Appropriation.	2,230 00			
		5,860 00		
Construction.		1,571 12		
		$13,976 87		$13,976 87

CONSTRUCTION.

R. From balance of last year,	$6,439 43	*FF.* Extension mains,	$1,797 52
S. From bonds,	7,730 20	*GG.* Extension services,	1,287 89
U. From service pipes, meters, etc.,	517 21	*HH.* Special,	2,851 79
		Meters,	7,123 24
		II. Total construction for the year,	$13,060 44
		Maintenance,	1,571 12
		Balance,	55 28
	$14,686 84		$14,686 84

Net cost of works to date $244,131 16
Bonded Debt 215,000 00
Rate of interest, 4 per cent.

CONSUMPTION.

1 Estimated total population at date, 4,750.
2 Estimated population on lines of pipes at date, 4,160.
3 Estimated population supplied at date, 3,650.
4 Total number of gallons consumed for year, 41,074,585.
5 Passed through domestic meter.
6 Passed through manufacturing meters.
7 Average daily consumption, 112,533.
8 Gallons per day to each inhabitant (1), 23.69.
9 Gallons per day to each consumer (3), 30.83.
10 Gallons per day to each tap (distribution 22), 161.2.

DISTRIBUTION.

MAINS.

1 Kind of pipe used, cast iron.
2 Sizes from 4 inches to 12 inches.
3 Extended, 3,139 feet.
4 Discontinued, none.
5 Total, now in use, 23 $\frac{61}{100}$ miles.
6 Cost of repairs per mile, none.
7 Number of leaks per mile, none.
8 Small distribution pipes less than four inches, none.
9 Hydrants added, 4.
10 Number now in use, 125.
11 Stop gates added, 5.
12 Number now in use, 212.
13 Small stop gates less than four inches, none.
14 Number of blow-off gates, 14.
15 Range of pressure on mains at centre for day and night, 68 to 78 pounds.

SERVICES.

16 Kind of pipe used, galvanized iron, cement-lined iron, lead-lined iron, cast iron.

17 Size, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 6 inches.
18 Extended, 2,567 feet.
19 Discontinued, none.
20 Total now in use, 11 $\frac{671}{1000}$ miles.
21 Service taps added, 41.
22 Number now in use, 928.
23 Average length for 1898, 62.60 feet.
24 Average cost of services for 1898, $31.41.
25 Meters added, 665.
26 Number now in use, 851.
27 Motors added, 0.
28 Number now in use, 3.

LEWIS M. BANCROFT, *Superintendent.*

READING, January 19, 1899.

TOWN OF READING.

FOURTH

ANNUAL REPORT.

...OF THE...

Electric Light Commissioners

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1898.

OFFICERS OF THE ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER DEPARTMENT.

Commissioners.

HENRY ROBINSON, *Chairman*, . .	Term expires 1901
A. NEWELL HOWES, *Sec'y*, . . .	" " 1899
JAMES H. CARLETON, ...	" " 1900

Superintendent and Manager.

STEWART S. BELL.

Clerk.

A. R. PRENTISS.

OFFICE :	OFFICE HOURS :
Room 10, Masonic Block.	Monday and Saturday, 7.30 to 9. P. M

REPORT OF MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD.

For the Year Ending December 31, 1898.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

CONSTRUCTION.

1897			
Dec. 31	Cash on hand	$49 38	
	Cash due from maintenance account	235 32	
	Balance in hands of town treas., re-appropriated 1898	600 00	
	Appropriation for 1898	500 00	
	Cash received for incandescent lamps	102 61	
	Cash received for miscellaneous articles	83 94	
	Appropriation for new machinery	3,000 00	
			$4,571 25

PAID ON ACCOUNT OF CONSTRUCTION.

REAL ESTATE.

Pay rolls, 1898	$2 00	
W. Bancroft & Co., posts	3 00	
Francis Bros., sundries	1 62	
O. P. Symonds & Sons, material	75	
		$7 37

ELECTRIC PLANT.

New England Bolt and Nut Co., sundries	$6 63	
Pay rolls	19 44	
C. W. Leatherbee Lumber Co., lumber	11 53	
American Express Co., express	1 35	
L. K. Marston, foundation for machine	205 00	
Geo. E. Abbott, services as architect	10 00	
B. & M. R. R., freight	85 93	
W. Bancroft & Co., sundries	1 04	
S. W. Bowker, labor and teaming	9 00	
Chas. L. Ireson, belting	135 02	
Horton Manufacturing Co., jobbing and labor	1 60	
H. M. Viall, freight and express	8 42	
Revere Rubber Co., rubber mats	10 50	
Jas. Hunter Machine Co., account	500 00	
Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., account	1,000 00	
		$2,005 46

LINES.

Pay rolls	$73 34	
Jas. W. Poole & Co., insulators	1 96	
Francis Bros., sundries	4 57	
H. M. Viall, freight and express	6 37	
B. & M. R. R., freight	23 65	
T. H. Brady, mast arms	40 74	
American Express Co., express	1 65	
Pettingell, Andrews Co., fuse boxes	5 44	
S. W. Bowker, teaming	1 25	
S. S. Bell, manager, sundries	7 25	
Amount carried forward	$166 22	

Amount brought forward . .	$166 22	
Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., lightning arresters	24 88	
Fort Wayne Electric Corp., fuse boxes .	10 75	
Eames, Sargent & Co., poles . . .	40 00	
Western Electric Co., cross arms . .	17 00	
Washburn, Moen M'f'g Co., wire . .	56 60	
O. O. Ordway, labor	1 00	
P. J. Seaman, material and labor . .	10	
		$316 55

INCANDESCENT LAMPS.

Sawyer, Mann Electric Co., lamps . .	$94 50	
American Express Co., express . . .	75	
Western Electric Co., lamps . . .	159 54	
B. & M. R. R., freight	35	
Marlboro Electric Machine & Lamp Co., lamps	52 50	
		$307 64

METERS.

Fort Wayne Electric Corp., meters . .	$300 61	
B. & M. R. R., freight	1 00	
American Express Co., express . . .	5 05	
General Electric Co., meter . . .	42 50	
H. M. Viall, freight	1 00	
		$ 350 16

CONVERTERS.

H. M. Viall, freight and express . . .	$4 54	
Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., converters	128 55	
Stanley Electric Manuf'g. Co., converters .	123 90	
Wagner Electric Manuf'g Co., converters .	95 34	
		$352 33

OFFICE FURNITURE.

Francis Bros., sundries	$4 58	
Electric Gas Lighting Co., telephone receiver	80	
		$5 38
Total charges to construction account		$3,344 89

SUMMARY.

Credits to construction account	$4,571 25	
Less charges above	3,344 89	
		$1,226 36
Amount loaned maintenance account	$501 98	
Cash in bank	724 38	
		$1,226 36

RECAPITULATION.

COST OF READING MUNICIPAL LIGHT AND POWER PLANT TO DEC. 31, 1898.

CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNTS.	TOTAL COST DEC. 31, 1897.	ACCT. REND'D DEC. 31, 1898.	TOTAL COST DEC. 31, 1898.
Real estate	$21,084 60	$7 37	$21,091 97
Steam plant	14,073 03		14,073 03
Electric plant	7,026 60	2,005 46	9,032 06
Lines	17,201 94	316 55	17,518 49
Arc lamps	2,454 96		2,454 96
Incandescent lamps	811 41	307 64	1,119 05
Meters	1,728 21	350 16	2,078 37
Converters	2,664 39	352 33	3,016 72
Incidential construction expense	2,556 98		2,556 98
Office furniture	352 00	5 38	357 38
Board expense	63 82		63 82
	$70,017 94	$3,344 89	$73,362 83

Deduct		
Construction stock on hand Dec. 31, 1898	$793 33	
Cash received for incandescent lamps	102 61	
Cash received for miscellaneous articles	83 94	
Amount due from consumers for incandescent lamps	17 76	
Amount due from Hawkes Electric Co. on account new machine	53 24	
		$1,050 88
Total cost of plant Dec. 31, 1898		$72,311 95

MAINTENANCE.

Appropriation for 1898	$5,000 00	
Appropriation for interest, 1898	2,356 00	
Cash for commercial incandescent light	1,744 19	
Cash for domestic incandescent light	1,696 52	
Cash for Town incandescent light	131 89	
Cash for meter rents	141 40	
Cash for wiring, labor and fixtures	1,292 05	
Cash for miscellaneous articles	8 00	
Cash for interest on deposits	8 65	
		$12,378 70

FUEL.

Boston & Maine R. R., freight	$400 22	
Curran & Burton, coal	1,570 76	
Pay roll	18 11	
		$1,989 09

OIL AND WASTE.

H. M. Viall, freight and express	$7 78	
Reading Co-operative Association, kerosene	3 20	
N. Eng. Bolt and Nut Co., waste	29 00	
A. W. Harris Oil Co., oil	157 31	
American Express Co., express	25	
Boston & Maine R. R., freight	1 20	
		$198 74

WATER.

Reading Water Works	$106 45

STATION WAGES.

Pay roll, 1898	$2,584 71

REPAIRS OF REAL ESTATE.

W. Bancroft & Co., cement	$0 40	
Pay roll	6 89	
Boston & Maine R. R., freight	80	
Francis Bros., sundries	1 00	
		$9 09

REPAIRS OF STEAM PLANT.

Francis Bros., brass pans and sundries	$33 25	
Knowlton Packing Co., packing	8 72	
H. M. Viall, freight and express	2 95	
Chas. L. Ireson, repairing and taking up belt	34 80	
American Express Co., express	80	
Fife Bros., labor, valve and sundries	4 10	
Locke Regulation Co., sundries	3 25	
Wm. H. Gallison Co., labor and sundries	19 76	
F. G. Macdonald, sundries	50	
Kidder Supply Co., guage glasses	4 11	
Pay roll	6 00	
Boston & Maine railroad, freight	78	
Amount carried forward	$119 02	

Amount brought forward	$119 02	
Walworth Manufacturing Co., supplies	1 00	
Charles River Iron Works, boiler, tubes and labor	35 80	
M. E. Fitts Man'f'g and Supply Co., grease	1 98	
Horton Man'f'g Co., jobbing	15	
S. S. Bell, manager, sundry expenses	2 90	
W. Bancroft & Co., sundries	65	
O. O. Ordway, labor, etc.	2 00	
S. W. Bowker, labor and teaming	10 00	
P. J. Seaman, labor and material	3 95	
		$177 45

REPAIRS OF ELECTRIC PLANT.

Revere Rubber Co., rubber mats	$10 50	
American Express Co., express	85	
Westinghouse Electric Man'f'g Co., studs, coils and copper brushes	23 40	
W. H. Willis, vaseline	50	
J. T. Freeman & Co., grinding commutators	6 40	
Francis Bros., sundries	1 10	
Pay roll	4 00	
Crown Woven Wire Brush Co.,	29 70	
Frank Ridlon & Co. Rep'g Armature	14 91	
S. W. Bowker, teaming.	28 74	
S. S. Bell, manager, sundry expenses	1 00	
H. M. Viall, freight and express	75	
		$121 85

STATION TOOLS AND APPLIANCES.

Francis Bros., sundries	$8 55	
C. F. Hovey & Co., sundries	10 50	
S. S. Bell, manager, emery stone, etc.	1 65	
		$20 70

WAGES CARE OF LIGHTS.

Pay roll, 1898	$780 00

REPAIRS OF LINES AND LAMPS.

Pay roll, 1898	$121 57	
Francis Bros., sundries	3 85	
Fort Wayne Electric Corp., fuse boxes	36 00	
Littlefield & Kennedy, rep. transformers	64 00	
American Express Co., express	3 25	
Western Electric Co., carbon holders	8 44	
S. S. Bell, manager, sundry expenses	2 00	
		$239 11

CARBONS.

Standard Carbon Co., carbons	$247 93	
Boston & Maine R. R., freight	20 15	
American Carbon Co., carbons	5 70	
General Electric Co., carbons	6 25	
H. M. Viall, freight and express	14 44	
		$294 47

GLOBES.

Boston & Maine R. R., freight	$0 45	
F. O. Dewey Co., globes	35 75	
H. M. Viall, freight and express	1 20	
		$37 40

GENERAL SALARIES.

A. R. Prentiss, clerk	$250 00	
S. S. Bell, supt. and manager	1203 92	
		$1453 92

GENERAL OFFICE EXPENSES.

M. F. Charles, P. M., stamped envelopes, etc.	$34 50	
M. F. Charles, supplies	1 03	
Electrical Engineer, subscription	3 00	
J. L. Fairbanks & Co., books of account	19 00	
G. F. Gilman, janitor	2 00	
Amount carried forward	$59 53	

Amount brought forward	$59 53	
W. H. Twombly & Sons, bill heads, printing, etc.	17 25	
A. R. Prentiss, sundry expenses	5 80	
E. F. Parker, treas., revenue stamps	2 00	
S. S. Bell, manager, sundry expenses	1 85	
		$86 43

RENTS.

Reading Masonic Temple Corp.		$132 00

INSURANCE.

Field & Cowles		$180 70

BAD DEBTS.

Sundry accounts uncollectable		$40 06

INCIDENTALS.

Pay roll, 1898	$105 78	
Reading Co-op. Ass'n, washing soda	4 40	
Meyers Putz Pomade Co., Putz pomade	1 90	
Geo. H. Atkinson, washing soda	2 50	
O. P. Symonds & Sons, stock, etc.	2 00	
S. S. Bell manager, car fares, telephoning, etc.	13 66	
		$130 24

INTEREST.

Edward F. Parker, treasurer, on notes	$476 00	
Edward F. Parker, treasurer, on bonds	1,180 00	
Edward F. Parker, treasurer, interest overdrawn, 1897	58 00	
		$2,414 00

STABLE.

Francis Bartley, blanket	$1 40	
P. J. Seaman, iron work, etc.	22 45	
F. H. White, board and care of horse	240 00	
Amount carried forward	$263 85	

Amount brought forward . .	$263 85	
F. P. Abbott, board and care of horse .	240 00	
J. H. Johnson, repairing harness . .	19 50	
C. H. Playdon, veterinary services . .	2 50	
C. D. Wells, blacksmith	24 00	
J. L. Sullivan, harness	25 00	
F. W. Danforth, painting wagons . .	17 00	
		$591 85

WIRING, LABOR AND FIXTURES.

Pay roll, 1898	$168 76	
Jas. W. Poole & Co., wiring supplies . .	25 49	
N. Y. Insulated Wire Co., wire . . .	107 88	
Eastern Electric Cable Co., wire . .	4 27	
H. M. Viall, freight and express . . .	27 39	
Francis Bros., sundries	10 51	
Western Electric Co., wiring supplies .	97 39	
Pettingill, Andrews Co., wiring supplies .	211 82	
American Express Co., express . . .	2 20	
McKenney & Waterbury, fixtures . .	275 38	
Wm. I. Ruggles, wiring sundries returned .	2 20	
C. S. Knowles, conduit	37 50	
Electric Gas Lighting Co., batteries and sundries	8 97	
F. O. Dewey Co., conduit	45 00	
Wheeler Reflector Co., supplies . . .	2 30	
Anchor Electric Co., wire	7 60	
W. Bancroft & Co., sundries	1 63	
Bibber White Co., wiring supplies . .	10 86	
Crefield Electric Works, wire . . .	8 51	
S. S. Bell, manager, sundry expenses . .	84	
Boston & Maine R. R., freight . . .	50	
P. J. Seaman, labor and materials . .	10	
		$1,057 10

Total charges to maintenance account	$12,645 36
Am't due construction account, 1897	235 32
	$12,880 68
Total receipts of maintenance acct. .	$12,378 70
Amount borrowed from construction account	$501 98

LIST OF SALARIES PAID EMPLOYES OF THE READING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT DURING 1898.

Stewart S. Bell, superintendent and manager	$1,200 00	per	annum
A. R. Prentiss, clerk	250 00	"	"
A. E. Brown, engineer	1,000 00	"	"
E. D. Smith, night fireman	2 00	"	day
J. W. Walker, day fireman and cleaner .	2 00	"	"
A. N. Turner, lineman	2 00	"	"
F. P. Abbott, trimmer	2 00	"	"

RECAPITULATION.

COST OF MAINTENANCE, INCLUDING INTEREST ON BONDS AND NOTES, YEAR 1898.

Fuel	$1,989 09
Oil and waste	198 74
Water	106 45
Station wages	2,584 71
Repairs of real estate . .	9 09
Repairs of steam plant . .	177 45
Repairs of electric plant . .	121 85
Station tools and appliances .	20 70
Wages, care of lights . .	780 00
Repairs of lines and lamps .	239 11
Carbons	294 47
Amount carried forward	$6,521 66

Amount brought forward	$6,521 66	
Globes	37 40	
General salaries	1,453 92	
General office expenses	86 43	
Rents	132 00	
Insurance	180 70	
Bad debts	40 06	
Incidentals	130 24	
Interest	2,414 00	
Stable	591 85	
Wiring, labor and fixtures	1,057 10	
		$12,645 36
Add		
Amount due from wiring, labor and fixtures, Dec. 31, 1897	$841 66	
Maintenance stock on hand Dec. 31, 1897	671 68	
Amount due from consumers for light, meter rent and sundries, Dec. 31, 1897	710 66	
		$2,224 00
		$14,869 36
Deduct		
For amount received in 1898 for commercial incandescent light		$1,744 19
Domestic incandescent light		1,696 52
Town incandescent light		131 89
Meter rents		141 40
Wiring, labor and fixtures		1,292 05
Miscellaneous articles		8 00
Interest on deposits		8 65
Maintenance stock on hand Dec. 31, 1898		761 77
Amount carried forward		$5,784 47

Amount brought forward . .		$5,784 47	
Amount due Dec. 31, 1898.			
Commercial incandescent light	$444 98		
Domestic incandescent light .	369 35		
Town incandescent light . .	12 97		
Wiring, labor and fixtures . .	625 89		
Meter rents	30 20		
Miscellaneous articles . .	5 86		
		$1,489 25	
			$7,273 72
Total cost of maintenance, 1898 .			$7,595 64
Number of arc street lamps . .	128		
Cost of each light for 1898			$59 34

INVENTORY.

CONSTRUCTION STOCK ON HAND DEC. 31st, 1898.

300	Insulators	$4 50
40	Lag Screws	52
13	Hoods	47 50
101	Cross Arms	19 07
579	lbs. Wire	91 31
188	Cross Arm Braces	15 51
41	Poles	158 88
3	Mast Arms	42 00
4	Lamp Pulleys	2 00
30	Tree Insulators	60
80	ft. Cable	2 40
8	Lightning Arresters . . .	29 12
3	Converters	160 00
33	Arc Globes	16 50
7	Meters	107 05
447	Lamps	96 37
		$793 33

MAINTENANCE STOCK ON HAND DEC. 31st, 1898.

15	lbs. Nails	80 60
741	ft. Conduit	23 73
3130	ft. Wire	30 22
1086	Clay Tubes	5 21
24	lbs. Solder	2 88
4	boxes Soldering Acid	40
85	Fuse Plugs	2 55
2	lbs. Tape	60
2	lbs. Splicing Compound	80
42	Sockets	4 50
324	Knobs	1 63
50	Shade Holders	2 12
41	Cutouts	8 66
14	Shades	1 42
44	Insulating Joints	11 00
500	ft. Silk Cord	12 50
30	ft. Twin Cable	90
35	Bushings	18
15	Cord Adjusters	08
13	Switches	8 75
1	Chapman Receptacle	1 50
65	Fixture Spars	3 25
2	Attaching Plugs	16
6	Crow Feet	30
175	ft. Moulding	2 63
84	Rosettes	9 24
223	Cleats	2 68
35	Security Knobs	53
71	Westinghouse Receptacles	15 62
380	Nickle Sockets	41 80
195	Brass Armored Couplings	4 88
	Amount carried forward	$201 32

Amount brought forward . .	$201 32		
395 " " Elbows . .	12 75		
2½ cords Slabs	10 00		
100 tons Coal	380 00		
10900 Carbons	87 20		
200 lbs. Waste	14 00		
125 gals. Oil	44 50		
15 gals. Pole Paint	12 00		
		$761 77	
Total stock on hand Dec. 31st, 1898 .			$1,555 10

No. of Incandescent Lamps installed in '98

7 32-candle power,
8 8-candle power,
398 16-candle power.

Total 411 Lamps and equal to 416 lamps of 16-candle power each.

Poles installed during 1898 . . .	13	
Meters installed during 1898 . . .	19	
Converters installed during 1898 . .	9	
Wire installed during 1898 . . .	14,000	feet
Coal used during 1898 . . .	493	tons
Number of customers using light Dec 31, 1897	136	
Number of customers added during 1898 .	34	
	170	
Number of customers discontinued during 1898	19	
	151	
Net increase	15	

Number of days and hours that street circuits were lighted during 1898 :

	Days.	Hours.
January	25	141
February	21	120
March	25	117
April	22	106
May	22	100
June	24	101
July	25	108
August	23	105
September	24	125
October	24	141
November	25	145
December	27	157
Total	287	1,466

Table showing the earnings each month from incandescent light and meter rents and a comparison with the previous year :

	Light.	Meter Receipts.	1898 Total.	1897 Total.
January	$509 54	$10 90	$520 44	$334 09
February	337 02	12 00	349 02	263 86
March	365 20	12 80	378 00	229 13
April	284 11	13 10	297 21	120 82
May	193 21	11 00	204 21	150 86
June	137 80	10 20	148 00	200 00
July	138 11	10 70	148 81	103 61
August	221 05	14 10	235 15	181 11
September	256 72	13 00	269 72	275 02
October	414 23	13 70	427 93	398 10
November	533 08	13 50	546 58	451 80
December	462 20	14 10	476 30	510 57
	$3,852 27	$149 10	$4,001 37	$3,218 97

Less discount allowed for cash			$139 41	$129 15
Total . .	$3,852 27	$149 10	$3,861 96	$3,089 82

COST OF NEW MACHINE.

Appropriation for 1898 . . .			$3,000 00
Paid on account of machine . . .		$2,005 46	
Due Westinghouse Electric & M'f'g. Co. .		999 25	
Due J. Hunter Machine Co. . . .		58 59	
		$3,063 30	
Due from Hawkes Electric Co. . . .		53 24	
		$3,010 06	
Appropriation exceeded by . . .			$10 06

The foregoing report gives in detail the doings of this department for the past year. In one respect, the figures show fairly good results. The receipts from incandescent lighting have increased 25 per cent. over the year 1897.

At the same time, the report is disappointing in the small net gain of customers. We believe many are deterred from using the electric lights on account of the cost of wiring their houses, but this may be partly accounted for by misinformation of the actual expense. For the benefit of any who contemplate using electricity in their homes, we will state that the cost of wiring a house, together with necessary fixtures, is from $30 to $100, according to the number of lights and switches desired.

The expense of using the lights varies from 50 cents to $10 per month, according to the number of lights and the number of hours that they are burning. The price per hour is three-quarters of a cent for a sixteen-candle power light, which is equal to an ordinary gas jet, with gas at $1.50 per 1,000 feet. Any increase in the number of consumers will reduce the cost of street lighting, thereby affecting favorably the rate of taxation, and eventually a lower rate per hour for the house lighting.

The past year thunder storms have been frequent and unusually severe, causing great damage in many places to churches, public buildings and private residences. Electric power and lighting plants have not escaped the freaks of the lightning. Our municipal plant has been fortunate, under the circumstances, to pass through the season with only trifling damage. A few transformers on the lines were burned out, and also two of the armature coils in the alternating machine at the station. The latter caused a shutdown for three nights, very much to the inconvenience of those depending on the plant for light.

This contingency was pointed out in the report last year, and the citizens very generously voted the funds to install a duplicate dynamo. A contract was signed in April for this machine, but it was not completed and in running condition until the latter part of August. The station is now completely equipped with all necessary machinery, and should be equal to the needs of the town for a number of years to come.

There has been quite an urgent request from several of the citizens in different localities for a few street lights, but as the appropriation committee of last year advised against any addition to the number already installed, no money has been expended in this direction. An outlay of a few hundred dollars in these street lights will procure consumers for the house lights, which promises a large per cent. income on the expenditure. The Board will be pleased to carry out the expressed wishes of the citizens in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY ROBINSON,
A. NEWELL HOWES,
J. H. CARLETON,
Town of Reading Municipal Light Board.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Appropriation			$900 00
Amount dog tax, 1897			399 17

EXPENDED.

Rent.			
Odd Fellows' Building Association		$475 00	
Light.			
S. S. Bell, electric service		55 78	
Salaries.			
L. S. Cox, librarian	$300 00		
Jessie Grouard, assistant	26 50		
B. Y. Smith, janitor	40 00		
		$366 50	
Books.			
Estes & Lauriat	$90 11		
C. E. Lauriat Company	105 64		
H. E. Hooper	12 50		
H. G. Wadlin, cash expended	16 50		
A. W. Danforth, periodicals	30 25		
		$255 00	
Sundries.			
Insurance	$60 00		
W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing	26 25		
F. J. Barnard, binding	60 64		
		$146 89	
		$1,299 17	$1,299 17

FINE ACCOUNT.

Amount on hand Jan. 1, 1898	$37 73	
Received for catalogues	6 15	
Received for cards	3 70	
Received for fines	55 23	
		$102 81
Paid for binding	$30 30	
Paid for incidential supplies	1 10	
Paid for expressage	1 95	
		$33 35
Balance		$69 46

The following volumes have been presented to the library:

NAMES OF DONORS.	NUMBER OF VOLUMES
United States, Documents and Reports	15
Commonwealth of Massachusetts	11
Reading Woman's Club	2
Mrs. F. W. Hatch	7
Miss Jessie Grouard	4
Other sources	6
	45

Number of new volumes added	81
Number replaced	56
Total number in library	8,258
Circulation, year ending Jan. 1, 1899	17,720
Largest single month, January	1,698
Smallest single month, September	1,116

In presenting their last annual report to the town the trustees estimated the proceeds of the dog tax, appropriated for the library, at $430. This was based upon the experience of previous years. In point of fact, only $399.17 was actually available, and this, together with the sum of $900 otherwise appropriated, placed at the disposal of the trustees for the expenses of the current year an

aggregate amount of $1,299.17, all of which has been expended, as will appear from an inspection of the financial statement. By groups the items of expense may be classed as follows:

a.	For rent, (including heating) . .	$475 00	
b.	For salaries, (librarian, assistant and janitor)	366 50	
c.	For books, periodicals, rebinding, insurance, printing and lighting . .	457 67	
			$1,299 17

A part of item "c" covers an outstanding account for books reported as added in 1897. The actual number of new volumes added by purchase during the twelve months ending Dec. 31, 1898, was 81, while 56 volumes were purchased to replace books worn out. This is a very small number and, of course, does not permit the addition of many volumes of current interest which are especially desired by patrons of the library and which ought to be placed on our shelves. Indeed, the requests for new books filed in the library are always far in advance of our present resources, and rigid selections and exclusions must necessarily be made in respect to purchases. The trustees therefore urgently request a slight additional appropriation, in order that at least a few more volumes may be purchased during the next year, than it has been possible to obtain in 1898. The fixed expenses of the library cannot be reduced, and these, covering rent, services, printing and care of rooms, absorb a large portion of our annual appropriation.

There is no educational force, except the public school, that has greater possibilities than those which may be developed through the public library. But to give this force adequate expression, the library must be fostered, not merely allowed to exist. The entire expense of the library during the last year has amounted to only about 25 cents per capita of the population, and the amount raised by taxation to about 22 cents per each $1000 of valuation. To increase the annual appropriation $200, which would materially add to our purchasing power, would raise the per capita cost less than

four cents, and would add only about five cents to the tax rate per thousand.

When the subscriptions expired to the various periodicals originally placed upon the reading tables in the library by private gift, they were renewed by the trustees out of the annual appropriation. The use of the reading tables shows a slight increase, while the general circulation of books for home use has risen from 17,233, as in 1897, to 17,720. Increased purchases would undoubtedly have carried it still higher.

An additional supplement to the catalogue will be required immediately, which will increase the cost of printing during the coming year, and, unless we are given an enlarged appropriation, will still further reduce the fund available for the purchase of new books.

The trustees therefore recommend the appropriation of $1,100 and the proceeds of the dog tax, for the use of the library during the year 1899.

Two vacancies occur in the board, to be filled at the annual town meeting, the terms of Cyrus M. Barrows and Frederic E. Whittemore expiring. Respectfully submitted,

H. G. WADLIN, *Chairman*,
F. E. WHITTEMORE,
HARLEY PRENTISS,
HENRY G. KITTREDGE,
J. WOODWARD MANNING,
CYRUS M. BARROWS, *Secretary*,
Trustees.

Reading, January, 1898.

ANNUAL REPORT

...OF THE...

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

...OF THE...

Town of Reading,

For the Year Ending December 31, 1898.

School Committee.

WALTER S. PARKER, *Chairman*,	Walnut St.,	Term expires		1899.
GILMAN L. PARKER, *Sec'y*,	Washington St.,	"	"	1900.
HORACE G. WADLIN,	Woburn St.,	"	"	1899.
MRS. ELLEN M. BANCROFT,	Sanborn St.,	"	"	1900.
MRS. MARY L. NESMITH,	Main St.,	"	"	1901.
HENRY C. PARKER,	Chute St.,	"	"	1901.

Superintendent of Schools.

CHARLES E. HUSSEY.

Truant Officers.

FREDERIC D. MERRILL. ARTHUR E DAVIS.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE.

WALTER S. PARKER, *Chairman.*
GILMAN L. PARKER, *Secretary.*

SUB-COMMITTEES.

Finances and Accounts.
G. L. Parker, H. G. Wadlin.

Books and Supplies.
W. S. Parker, Mrs. Nesmith.

School Houses and Property.
H. G. Wadlin, H. C. Parker,
G. L. Parker.

Rules and Regulations.
H. C. Parker, H. G. Wadlin,
Mrs. Bancroft.

Teachers and Salaries.
W. S. Parker, Mrs. Nesmith,
G. L. Parker.

Music and Drawing.
Mrs. Bancroft, G. L. Parker.

Course of Study.
H. G. Wadlin, W. S. Parker,
Mrs. Nesmith.

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In accordance with our usual custom the School Committee respectfully submits the following report, together with the reports of the Superintendent and other school officials.

We invite your careful attention to facts and figures contained in the accompanying reports, especially those pertaining to the necessary expenses incurred by the Board during the past year.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The work of remodeling the High School was begun last year, but on account of the limited appropriation the work was not completed. We believe it should be completed this year, and we have asked for a special appropriation of $500 for that purpose.

Several of the school buildings are in urgent need of painting and repairs, and the committee contemplate using part of their incidental school appropriation for that purpose.

The work in the commercial course of the High School has not been entirely satisfactory in the past.

There are many pupils in the school who intend entering upon some mercantile employment. The work at the school should be of such good quality that our graduates would not be obliged to go elsewhere for this needed instruction. The school fits a few boys and girls each year for college. Is it expecting too much to ask that the necessary instruction in bookkeeping and other commercial branches be given that many might be fitted for their chosen calling?

Some of the parents in the Main Street district have asked to have their children transferred to the Highland School. We have granted the request because we have believed, and have made known that belief through our past reports, that the children of that

district and also of the Haverhill Street district would be far better off in every way if the schools should be closed and the pupils transported in a satisfactory manner to the schools at the village. The Town could transport them free of expense and give them much better educational advantages than they now enjoy. There is a feeling among property holders that closing the district school building would depreciate real estate in the neighborhood. The experience of many towns in the Commonwealth shows that it would have just the opposite effect. An intended purchaser from any of our larger towns would give more for a given farm if he were informed that his children would be carried to school and that they would have the benefits of the best schools in town.

The Town would give the children better instruction, better accommodation, better appliances and for less money. This method of transporting the pupils to the village is not new. It began in this state nearly thirty years ago. Within the last ten years 229 towns in Massachusetts have tried the plan at the aggregate cost of over $100,000, and yet in nearly every case money has been saved and the pupils better served, and from an educational standpoint a very great gain has been made. The old town of Concord commenced the good work in 1869. All over the New England states, New York, New Jersey, Ohio and even in benighted Russia and in Australia they are consolidating schools by transportation "after the Massachusetts plan."

The schools are for the benefit of the children and from that standpoint down it seems plain what action should be taken. When we consider the advantages derived from the better buildings, the better teaching, have we a right to deprive the children of the advantages enumerated? A short quotation from an article by our former townsman, A. E. Winship, would not be out of place here.

"Thirty years ago the schools of Concord were 'confusion worse confounded.' Little school houses were sprinkled over the town in an absurd fashion. Today the children are in a beautiful

building in the village. Heat, ventilation and sanitation are ideal. From all parts of the town the barges drive in just before the school opens and the children climb out from under robes and from heated soapstones, going into comfortably warmed hallways and school rooms, in strange contrast with those of other days, when they were broiled on one side and frozen on the other. There are now no cold feet in February, no bedraggled skirts in March. What a charming place this village school for all the towns. Such blackboards, window plants, decorated walls, reference books and appliances that would have been impossible in a dozen little school houses all over the town."

In the light of this picture and others like it we have for several years wondered why the parents of our smallest districts did not petition that their children be transported to the center schools where they might have the benefit of the best which the town affords, in the way of school instruction and accommodation.

VACANCIES.

The terms of Horace G. Wadlin and Walter S. Parker, members of the Committee, expire at the ensuing town meeting.

APPROPRIATIONS.

The Committee recommends the sum of $17,500 for regular school expenses, $3,000 for school incidentals, $1,000 for salary of Superintendent, and $500 for repairs on High School building.

Adopted in School Committee February, 1899.

WALTER S. PARKER, *Chairman*,
HORACE G. WADLIN,
ELLEN M. BANCROFT,
HENRY C. PARKER,
MARY L. NESMITH,
GILMAN L. PARKER, *Secretary*.

Reading, February 6, 1899.

One member of the Board dissents from that part of the report which refers to the transportation of school children to the village.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

To the School Committee:

My sixth annual report as superintendent of the schools of Reading is herewith respectfully submitted.

On account of the completeness of the School Report for 1897, in the averaging of expenses and school statistics for the past ten years, the present report will be somewhat abridged, and reference is made to the preceding report for information and comparisons on these subjects.

For several years the schools have been in session forty weeks. This time was considerably shortened during the past year by reason of the legal holidays and the omission of school sessions on account of stormy weather. The actual length of the past year has been 37.2 weeks. The schools opened September 7, 1896, and closed June 23, 1897. Vacations of one week each were allowed at Christmas and in April.

VALUATION SCHOOL PROPERTY.

The valuation of the school property is the same as was stated in the report of last year, with the exception that repairs have been made in the High School building to the extent of one thousand dollars ($1,000). To make these alterations and repairs five hundred dollars ($500) were appropriated by the Town. The intention was to make repairs to the extent of the $500, but while these were being made it seemed economical to complete certain plans which had been undertaken. This appropriation of $500 has been exceeded by nearly another five hundred dollars, which amount has been taken from the appropriation for incidental school expenses.

The High School house, land and furniture is regarded as having a value of eighteen thousand dollars ($18,000). The total valuation of all school property, including land and furniture, is estimated one hundred and eight thousand dollars ($108,000).

THE SCHOOL CENSUS.

By the school census of May, the number of children in town between 5 and 15 years was:

1890	611
1891	629
1892	666
1893	692
1894	771
1895	804
1896	794
1897	864
1898	845

By the school census of May, 1897.

Number of children between 5 and 6	76
" " " " 6 and 7	80
" " " " 7 and 8	82
" " " " 8 and 9	74
" " " " 9 and 10	88
" " " " 10 and 11	77
" " " " 11 and 12	72
" " " " 12 and 13	64
" " " " 13 and 14	89
" " " " 14 and 15	63
" " " " 15 and 16	78
Number of children in school	832
Not in school for various reasons	13
Total number: Males, 534; Females, 311; total	845
Number between 8 and 14 years	574
Length of school year	40 weeks
Days lost—stormy weather, holidays, etc.	14
Actual length of school year	37.2 wks.

A comparison for the years 1897 and 1898 shows some changes in enrollments and averages.

PUPILS.

	1896	1897	1898
Total enrollment from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31	929	1,018	981
Total enrollment in May	799	843	829
Total enrollment in October	848	895	864
Average number belonging in May	780.3	822.9	807
Average number belonging in October	815.7	841.7	850.6
Average number belonging in year	782.5	851.2	833.8
Average daily attendance for the year	733.6	802.2	789.3
Per cent. of attendance for the year	93.7	94.2	93.8

The school attendance for the past year has been excellent and the percentage is considerably higher than the average for the past ten years.

It is gratifying to report the fact that there is comparatively little truancy among pupils in our schools. This indicates that the teachers succeed in awakening and holding the interest of pupils in their studies throughout the year. The wishes of parents in having their children in school is also from this fact apparent.

SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS.

As has been the practice, various sums are included in the incidental school expenses which in many towns are taken from an entirely different appropriation; for instance, insurance premiums, and extraordinary expenses for repairs, which for the past year have amounted to several hundred dollars; also, there has never been any division in this appropriation determining what amount shall be devoted to the purchase of books and supplies, and how much shall be used for incidental expenses. This lack of a division of this fund has resulted in too large expenses for repairs, insurance, furniture, water and electricity, etc., and too small an expenditure for books and school supplies. Of the thirty-five hundred dollars ($3,500) appropriated, twenty-five hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-four cents have been used for contingent expenses, and nine hundred sixty-three dollars and eleven cents ($963.11) have

been used for books and supplies. Expenses for repairs are usually imperative and purchases of books and supplies may be unwisely deferred. I recommend that this appropriation be divided, and the sum fixed for repairs and other contingent expenses, and the sum fixed for the purchase of books and supplies.

CHANGES IN TEACHERS.

The following is a list of appointments, transfers and resignations which have occurred during the present year. The same condition of affairs holds now as formerly. Every year Reading loses some of its best teachers, who go to other towns and cities at a larger salary. We are obliged to secure teachers whose experience is limited, and after they get well acquainted with the work and the methods of Reading schools resign for other positions. While this state of affairs probably cannot be remedied to any great extent, the pupils and the schools suffer considerably from these changes.

WITHDRAWALS.

SCHOOL.	TEACHERS.	DATE.
High	Cora E. Lombard	June
Highland	Marie Burnham	June
Highland	Charlotte E. Jones	June
Union Street	Mabel M. Backard	June
High	Marilla C. Wooster	Dec.

TRANSFERS.

A. Helena Burnham from Lowell street to Highland.

APPOINTMENTS.

SCHOOL.	TEACHERS.	WHERE EDUCATED.	SAL'Y.	DATE.
High	Marilla C. Wooster	Michigan University	$650	Sept.
Highland	Grace M. Dennison	Wellesley College	500	Sept.
Highland	Florence E. Hunter	Castleton Normal	450	Sept.
Highland	Helen A. Parker	Reading High	350	Sept.
Union Street	Myra K. Parker	Reading High	350	Sept.
Lowell Street	Cora J. Jaquith	Salem Normal	350	Sept.

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATIONS.

A new class was opened in the Highland building in September, and the classification and attendance at that school is as follows:

Room 1, Grade VIII, has	50 pupils
Room 2, Grades VII and VIII, has	45 "
Room 3, Grade VII, has	45 "
Room 4, Grade VI, has	48 "
Room 5, Grades V and IV, has	48 "
Room 6, Grade V, has	48 "
Room 7, Grade IV, has	42 "
Room 8, Grade IV, has	37 "
	363 pupils

The eighth grade now has seventy-five pupils, and it will be necessary soon to form two classes for this grade.

On account of lack of sittings in the higher room at Prospect Street School grade five was transferred in September to the Highland School. The Prospect Street School now has four grades and for the present the grading in that school should remain the same.

The Chestnut Street School has six grades instead of seven as was the case somewhat recently. The older pupils at the Lowell Street School have been transferred to the Highland School, so that this is now a primary school having three grades and about forty pupils.

The Main Street School and the Haverhill Street School are both small, and there seems to be a disposition on the part, of some of the parents living in these localities to ask the School Committee for permission to allow their children to attend the schools at the centre of the town.

The entering class into the High School this year was large, about sixty pupils. The number of pupils in the High School in September was about one hundred and forty. There seems to be an unfortunate tendency on the part of many boys and girls to drop the High School course at the expiration of the first year. This is probably the most critical time in the pupil's school life. Having already acquired a good elementary education, the desire to earn something for themselves, and the wish to make changes, depletes each year the upper classes in that school. A large percentage of the Reading parents can afford to give their children a high school course, and I believe that they ought to realize the importance of having them continue their studies under their immediate oversight during the years from fifteen to eighteen. The entering class for this year is the largest in the history of the school. It is hoped that the members of it will avail themselves of the privileges offered by the Town and complete a high school course in their own town.

MANUAL TRAINING.

When the Highland School was constructed the architect and committee had in view in its construction a room suitable for manual training. Such a room has been available without expense of heat or otherwise, since the occupancy of the building. It is not my purpose to enter upon any discussion as to whether manual training is a suitable addition to school work or not. By statute, cities over a certain size are compelled to introduce it, and many towns have adopted this branch of their own accord. It will not be long before others will make arrangements for it.

Sloyd and bench work for boys and sewing for the girls can be arranged for without great expense. It will cost three hundred and fifty dollars ($350) to provide a class with benches and tools, and these will last for a number of years. A teacher of this branch can be secured for two hundred and fifty dollars ($250). The expense in the matter of sewing would consist almost solely in the securing of a sewing teacher at an expense of two hundred dollars ($200) per year.

I recommend your early consideration of this subject, and believe that such an addition would be favorably considered and cordially supported by the citizens of the town.

STORM SIGNALS.

In every school year there are storms of moderate severity when little children ought not to be compelled to go out; pupils, however, in the higher grammar grades and the high school should not be deprived of school privileges on such days. In an endeavor to provide for both classes a change in the storm signals have been adopted. The fact must not be lost sight of that the responsibility of the attendance of children at school on such days cannot be assumed by any school official; with the parents themselves must rest the decision of whether the child is well enough to go to school or not.

I recommend the purchase of a signal box (for use at the High School in ringing in the storm signal). Such a box could ring only the exact number fixed as this signal, and as at present sounded confusion is likely to occur.

Notice of the change in the signal and its time has been sent to the fire department officials and to every family in town. They are as follows:

2-2——2-2 (Two rounds)

At 7.50—No morning session for all schools.

2-2——2-2

At 8.15—No morning session for primary schools.

2-2——2-2

At 12.30—No afternoon session for grammar and primary schools.

At 12.50—No afternoon session for primary schools.

WORK OF THE SCHOOLS.

The regular work of the schools has continued on the same lines as heretofore with few changes, except such as naturally come in in securing unity in the school work. Teachers have been cautioned to remember that there is a vital difference between thoroughness and exhaustiveness in a subject. Exhaustiveness is not to be expected. Thoroughness is necessary, and constant drill upon essentials is of the greatest importance. The omission of the non-essentials has been encouraged.

The best way to find out what progress is made, what methods and what results are being obtained in the classes, is to visit those schools during the regular school sessions. All parents are cordially invited to make such visits for the purpose of gaining accurate information for themselves. Incidentally this is a means of encouragement to both children and teachers.

The work of the special teachers has been, I believe, thorough, and the results obtained excellent. I refer you to their reports.

At this time I wish to thank the committee individually, and as a committee, for cordial treatment and support during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. HUSSEY.

REPORT OF HIGH SCHOOL.

To the Superintendent:

The report of the High School for the year ending December 23, 1898, is respectfully presented.

The total enrollment for the year, the per cent. of attendance, the number admitted from the grammar school and other schools, and other items of interest, are given in the list of statistics of the school.

Instruction has been given in the different departments, so far as our opportunities have permitted, in accordance with the plan outlined in my last report. The introduction of several new text books has facilitated the work of the teachers and increased the interest of the pupils. Since the beginning of the fall term, a class of thirty-five have been studying book-keeping, using Williams & Rogers' New Introductive text-book. Aside from the disciplinary and educational value of this work, it provides a sufficiently extended course of study to prepare pupils to keep an ordinary set of books. However, in this connection, it may not be premature for me to ask your consideration of the advisability of making provisions for a commercial course, adapted to the needs of our pupils.

A good degree of interest has been manifested both in music and in drawing.

In accordance with a suggestion of Secretary Hill, of the State Board of Education, some of the work of the pupils has been done in a permanent and attractive form as an evidence of good and careful scholarship, and as an inspiration not only to the pupils, but to the teachers as well. Some of the note-books on Geometry, the composition exercises, the plant analyses, the drawing lessons, the book-keeping records, are models of neatness and accuracy.

Acknowledgment is made of the gift from the class of 1898, of Atwood's Machine for illustrating the laws of falling bodies; also, from the proceeds of an entertainment given under the auspices of the school, of an aquarium, a spherical black-board globe, Kiepert's Map of the Roman Empire, and various chemical and philosophical apparatus.

F. E. WHITTEMORE,
Principal.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF DRAWING.

To the Superintendent of Schools:

The methods of art instruction during the past year have been similar to those of 1897. The use of brushes and color has been extended to the third grade of the primary schools, and the youngest pupils have been as much pleased and interested as the older ones, and their work has shown as much improvement. Ink has been the medium in the fall in the representation of plant life, such as grasses, curled leaves, seed pods, vines with berries, and such subjects as are beautiful in form and arrangement. Water colors have been used for the spring flowers, which have also the beauty of color as well as of form. The course in design has been much improved and amplified by the use of color.

The study of pictures has continued through the year with much enthusiasm and profit, with the hope and expectation that pupils will, eventually, recognize with genuine pleasure the portraits of noted artists and appreciate their work in some degree, just as they are already learning to love the works of our best authors and poets.

More than usual interest was evinced in the designs for the Pioneer, the annual publication of the High School. The cover, a simple though creditable design, was executed by Master Harold Webber, of the freshman class. Several decorative initials were designed by other members of the sophomore and freshman classes which embellished the pages of the same periodical.

Nearly two hundred and fifty dollars were received as a fund for decorating the schoolrooms of the Town, which sum was expended by the committee chosen for the purpose. Several pictures were given by interested citizens, and all were exhibited

to the public, in the hall of the Highland School, on April 30. The pictures were then distributed to the several school rooms, each receiving at least one. The following is a list of the subjects presented:

HIGH SCHOOL.

Cathedral at Ely, England.	Photograph.
Portrait Study.	Charcoal Drawing.

HIGHLAND SCHOOL.

Hall.

Capitol, Washington.	Photograph.
Castle of St. Angelo.	Photograph.
Winged Victory.	Statue and Pedestal.

GRADES VIII TO IV.

Reading from Homer.	Alma Tadema.
Durham Cathedral.	Photograph.
By the River.	Henri Le Rolle.
Portrait of Himself.	Reubens.
Madonna of the Chair.	Raphael.
At the Watering Trough.	Dagnan-Bouveret.
Columbus' Caravels.	
Shepherdess.	Henri Le Rolle.

For Mantels in Corridor.

Statuette of a Lion.	Barye.
Portion of Frieze of Parthenon.	Bas Relief.

UNION STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.

The Helping Hand.	Renouf.
Primary School in Brittany.	Geoffroy.
St. Anthony and the Christ Child.	Murillo.
Impudence.	Carbon Photograph.

MAIN STREET SCHOOL.

The Meadow.	Dupre.

HAVERHILL STREET SCHOOL.

Pilgrim Exiles.	Boughton.

JOHN STREET PRIMARY

Baby Stuart.	Van Dyke.

CHESTNUT HILL SCHOOL.

Christ Among the Doctors.	Hoffman.
Dignity and Impudence.	Landseer.

PROSPECT STREET SCHOOL.

Streets in Venice.	Colored Photograph.
Feeding Her Birds.	Millet.

LOWELL STREET SCHOOL.

Madonna.	Murillo.

ANNIE B. PARKER,
Supervisor of Drawing.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF MUSIC.

To the Superintendent:

Good progress has been made in the music of the Reading schools this year.

The work has been planned the same as previous years.

More attention has been given to individual work, but the short time allowed for music work each week (seventy-five minutes) will not admit of as much time for individual work as I would like. Better results could be had in class work if more time could be given to this subject.

Much profit and pleasure has been derived by combining classes for work in the hall of the new grammar school.

Several suggestions whereby a new piano can be obtained for this building have been proposed, and it is to be hoped that in the coming year some definite plan can be carried out to start a piano fund. We certainly should get a great deal of pleasure and improvement by having a piano in the hall of the Middlesex school building, and any movement toward purchasing an instrument will meet with the hearty approval of the teachers and children.

The chorus work of the high school at present is the best it has ever been since my connection with your schools, and the interest is all that could be desired. This is partly due to the fact that since Sept., '98, singing has been introduced at the morning devotional exercises. It has been suggested that a class in advanced harmony and musical history be organized in the high school for the benefit of those pupils who are musical and who wish to obtain a musical education. I am heartily in favor of such a movement, and hope that an opportunity will be given those who wish

this advanced work. The fact that some of our larger high schools in this state are adopting a course in advanced music, with good results, should make this subject a matter of serious consideration.

In closing, let me thank you and the school committee for your hearty support in my work.

FRED W. ARCHIBALD,
Supervisor of Music.

TRUANT OFFICERS' REPORT.

To the Superintendent:

The following is a report of the Truant Officers for the year ending December 31st, 1898.

Number of absentees reported by teachers		11
Number found to be cases of truancy	4	
" " " " " " sickness	1	
" " " " lack of clothing	2	
" " " " detained by parents	4	
	11	
Number not found	4	
" taken to school	1	
" reported more than once	1	

Respectfully submitted,

FREDERIC D. MERRILL,
ARTHUR E. DAVIS,
Truant Officers.

GRADUATING EXERCISES,

CLASS OF 1898,

READING HIGH SCHOOL,

Old South M. E. Church,

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 22.

PROGRAMME.

PRAYER, ...

REV. F. J. GAULD.

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS, ...

REV. A. E. WINSHIP, Editor of the Journal of Education.

SINGING, Hail, Smiling Morn, R. Spofforth.

SALUTATORY AND ESSAY, The Puritan Sabbath.

ETHEL FLORENCE BERRY.

ORATION, The Love of Liberty.

HAROLD FRANCIS PARKER.

SINGING, June Song, Geibel.

RECITATION IN FRENCH, Selection from Le Cid, Corneille.

LUCY ALICE DANFORTH.

ESSAY, The Modern New England Girl.

GERTRUDE CURTIS BROWN.

SINGING, Water Lilies, Karl Linders.

ORATION, The United States and Spain.

STEPHEN FRANKLIN WADSWORTH.

ESSAY, The Roman Woman in the Last Century of the Republic.

EDNA MAY ROBERTS.

ORATION AND VALEDICTORY, Reformation of Primary Elections.

JOHN MEAD ADAMS.

SINGING, Pit, Pat, Bailey.

SEMI-CHORUS.

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS,

MR. W. S. PARKER.

SINGING, Class Ode.

Words by GERTRUDE CURTIS BROWN.

NAMES OF GRADUATES.

ENGLISH COURSE.

Frank Clifford Carter,
Ernest Prescott Nowell.

ENGLISH-LATIN COURSE.

Harold Francis Parker,
Grace Effie Skillen,
Grace Lillian Broad,
Ethel Florence Berry,
Gertrude Curtis Brown,
Blanche Maybelle Ellison,
Louise Marion Whelton,
Lucy Alice Danforth.

CLASSICAL COURSE.

John Mead Adams,
Edna May Roberts,
Edwin Francis Killam,
Alice May Ellenwood.

INSTITUTE COURSE.

Stephen Franklin Wadsworth.

GRADUATES FROM GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 1898.

Bancroft, Arthur W.
Bell, Angus
Bosson, Eustis
Brown, Edward
Bowser, Hermann C.
Cheney, Bernard
Cook, Frank C.
Champney, John
Claggett, Forrest
Cullinane, Daniel
Devaney, Thomas
Heselton, Frank H.
Keneely, Ralph S.
Jones, Albert
McKellar, Arthur L.
Mears, Ralph L.
Nichols, Preston
Nichols, Prescott R.
Nichols, Louis
Parker, Clarence
Platts, Fred
Rounds, Samuel D.
Ruggles, Guy H.
Sawyer, Ralph
Southwell, Howard W.
Thompson, Ralph
Whittier, Chester R.
Wickens, James
Webster, Arthur W.
Winship, Harold C.
Wright, Harold W.

Bancroft, Edith S.
Barr, Nellie R.
Beaudry, Bertha E.
Bolton, Ada E.
Buxton, Florence E.
Connolly, Etta M.
Cook, Lillian G.
Cummings, Mary E.
Day, Grace
Doyle, Grace D.
Eames, Louise B.
Francis, J. Gertrude
Gardner, Adela L.
Guild, Mildred A.
Harris, Erma L.
Hodson, Eva F.
Hubbard, Myra
Johnson, Etta E.
Killam, Florence E.
Marshall, E. Louise
McIntire, Hattie M.
Morse, Della
Nash, Alice
Nichols, Lillian C.
Parker, Agnes I.
Parker, Edith L.
Sheedy, Mary H.
Tansom, Mary
Tilton, Winnifred M.
Tucker, Adela S.
Wright, Mabel F.
Wardwell, Mary

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
Whole number of pupils during the year	138	158	156	171	183	187
Largest number at one time	118	124	126	142	138	140
Number admitted during the year	40	50	44	55	42	66
" from our Grammar School	36	44	39	50	36	60
" from other schools	4	6	5	5	6	6
" graduated	7	20	11	15	18	15
" of post graduates	0	3	1	1	1	1
" unclassified			3	2	7	1
" at the present time, December	108	114	118	139	122	140
" of boys	41	44	41	58	53	60
" of girls	67	70	77	81	69	80
" in English Course	45	39	22	34	50	53
" in Latin-English Course	46	52	70	81	63	79
" in College Preparatory	14	15	21	18	7	5
" in Institute	4	8	5	6	2	3
" in first class when it entered the school	49	49	52	58	44	63
" in first class, December	45	49	46	56	40	66
" in second class when it entered the school	42	49	49	52	58	44
" in second class, December	27	25	34	35	32	23
" in third class when it entered the school	28	42	49	49	52	58
" in third class, December	16	25	19	28	28	24
" in fourth class when it entered the school	37	28	42	49	49	52
" in fourth class, December	20	12	15	18	15	25

TABLE SHOWING ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

For the Year Ending December 31, 1898.

SCHOOL.	Enrollment.	Average Membership.	Average Attendance.	Av'ge per cent. Attendance.	Pupils over 15 years.	Pupils between 8 and 14 years.	Total half-days absence.	Number Cases of Tardiness.	Number Cases of Dismissal	Number Cases of Truancy.
High	127	120.8	118.2	97.7	99	2	662	121	101	0
Highland, Grade VIII .	52	48.3	47.4	98.1	12	24	412	21	13	0
" " VII & VIII	47	41.6	40.2	97.1	4	33	580	44	22	0
" " VII . .	52	44.6	42.6	95.5	2	35	787	41	7	0
" " VI . .	53	43.3	41.3	95.3	2	44	829	39	24	0
" " V & VII .	46	42.	40.3	96.	0	46	617	76	21	0
" " V . .	42	40.5	38.4	94.8	0	42	941	45	23	3
" " IV . .	53	42.4	40.9	94.4	1	52	1,054	54	14	5
" " IV . .	7	31.7	30.1	95.	0	7	233	15	12	0
Union St. Grade III . .	45	43.8	41.3	94.3	0	45	1,034	77	38	2
" " " II . .	46	40.6	37.5	92.3	0	37	1,231	84	36	2
" " " I & II .	50	38.3	35.1	91.7	0	6	1,203	105	16	0

" " " I . .	37	36.9	33.7	90.7	0	2	1,306	73	21	0
John St. " I . .	68	31.2	27.6	86.8	0	0	1,672	62	13	1
Prospect St., Grades III&IV	43	39.2	37.	94.4	0	37	872	69	45	2
" " " I, II, III	57	37.	34.6	93.8	0	10	967	39	45	0
Chestnut Hill, Gd. IV, V, VI	46	31.6	30.1	95.3	0	44	310	48	31	0
" " " I, II, III	34	24.5	22.	89.8	0	13	444	90	1	0
Lowell St. Grades I, II, III	41	29.3	26.7	91.1	0	14	436	78	29	1
Main St., Grades I-VI .	22	14.7	13.6	93.2	0	14	237	29	27	0
Haverhill St., Grades I-VI	13	11.5	10.7	92.9	0	7	153	78	16	0
Totals . . .	981	833.8	789.3	93.8	120	514	15,980	1,288	555	16

Total enrollment, 981; average membership of schools, 833.8; average per cent. of attendance, 93.8; number attending between 8 and 14 years, 514; number attending over 15 years, 120.

TEACHERS IN SERVICE DECEMBER, 1898.

WHERE EDUCATED, AND DATE WHEN FIRST APPOINTED.

SCHOOL	GRADE	TEACHER.	YEAR	SALARY	WHERE EDUCATED.
High School		F. E. Whittemore, Prin.	'91	$1,700	Brown University.
" "		Christine M. Scott	'95	800	Salem Normal.
" "		Sarah T. Kurt	'97	700	Wesleyan University.
" "		Mary A. Whitney	'97	600	Wellesley College.
" "		Frances M. Smith	'97	300	Berlitz School of Language. De Peiffer's School of Lang.
" "		Marilla C. Wooster	'98	650	Michigan University.
Highland School	VIII	Alice Barrows, Prin.	'80	800	Bridgewater Normal.
" "	VII-VIII	Nina A. Duley	'97	500	Farmington Normal.
" "	VII	Frances M. Wilson	'85	500	Salem Normal.
" "	VI	Grace M. Dennison	'98	500	Wellesley College.
" "	V-VI	Ida M. Kimball	'94	450	Killingly High School.
" "	V	Florence E. Hunter	'98	450	Castleton Normal.
" "	IV	A. Helena Burnham	'94	450	Salem Normal.
" "	IV	Helen A. Parker	'98	350	Reading High School.
Union Street School	III	Lucy E. Morgan	'97	450	Oberlin College.
" " "	II-III	M. Grace Wakefield	'90	400	Salem Normal.
" " "	I-II	Annie P. Reid	'84	400	Reading High School.
" " "	I	Myra K. Parker	'98	350	Reading High School.
John Street School	I	Lillian E. Tibbetts	'97	400	Chelsea High School.
Chestnut Hill School	IV-VI	A. Gertrude Deane	'98	400	Salem Normal.

" " "	I-III	Jessie E. Dyer	'96	400	Quincy Training School.
Prospect Street School	III-IV	A. Gertrude Demsey	'92	450	Salem Normal.
" " "	I-II	Isabel M. Elliot	'96	400	Wakefield High School.
Lowell Street School	I-III	Cora J. Jaquith	'98	350	Salem Normal.
Main Street School	I-VI	Alice M. Day	'97	350	Townsend High School.
Haverhill Street School	I-VI	Bertha W. Bryant	'97	350	Woburn High School.
Supervisor of Drawing		Annie B. Parker	'92	400	Prang's Normal Course.
Supervisor of Music		Fred A. Archibald		600	Holt's Inst. of Vocal Harmony.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Appropriations:		
General, for teachers, janitors and fuel	$16,000 00	
Contingent, for incidental expenses and for books and supplies	3,500 00	
Sundry receipts	13 50	
For superintendent of schools	1,000 00	
Total receipts		$20,513 15
Paid for teachers, janitors and fuel	$16,804 48	
Paid incidental expenses	2,533 34	
Paid for books and supplies	963 11	
Paid superintendent of schools	900 00	
Total expenses		$21,200 93
Overdraft		687 78
General appropriation		$16,000 00
Paid teachers	$14,085 00	
Paid janitors	1,329 00	
Paid fuel	1,381 48	
Paid labor on fuel	9 00	
		$16,804 48
Overdraft		$804 48
Appropriation for incidental expenses and for books and supplies	$3,500 00	
Sundry receipts	13 15	
	$3,513 15	
Paid incidental expenses	$2,533 34	
books and supplies	963 11	
	$3,496 45	
Balance		$16 70
Overdraft		$787 78
Balance of salary of superintendent of schools		$100 00
Overdraft		$687 78

Massachusetts State Fund, balance from 1897	$108 93

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

PAID TEACHERS.

F. E. Whittemore	$1,700 00
Christine M. Scott	800 00
Sarah T. Kurt	700 00
Mary A. Whitney	540 00
Cora E. Lombard	420 00
M. C. Wooster	260 00
Frances M. Smith	240 00
Alice Barrows	770 00
Nina A. Duley	500 00
Marie Burnham	300 00
M. Fannie Wilson	500 00
M. Grace Dennison	200 00
Charlotte E. Jones	270 00
Ida M. Kimball	435 00
Kathleen Melvin	240 00
Florence E. Hunter	180 00
A. Helena Burnham	450 00
Helen A. Parker	140 00
Lucy E. Morgan	450 00
M. Grace Wakefield	400 00
Annie P. Reid	400 00
Mabel F. Packard	240 00
Myra K. Parker	140 00
Lillian A. Tibbetts	385 00
A. Gertrude Deane	420 00
Jessie E. Dyer	400 00
A. Gertrude Demsey	450 00
Isabel M. Elliott	400 00
Amount carried forward . . .	$12,330 00

Amount brought forward . .	$12,330 00	
Cora Jaquith	140 00	
Alice M. Day	350 00	
Bertha W. Bryant	325 00	
Annie B. Parker	400 00	
F. W. Archibald	540 00	
		$14,085 00

PAID JANITORS.

Charles H. Swain	$150 00	
Clement Gleason	450 00	
D. C. Sanborn	440 00	
R. W. Parker	64 00	
Timothy Cummings	120 00	
L. Adelbert Frost	40 00	
Samuel Killam	24 00	
Charles F. Bessom	25 00	
O. H. Brown	16 00	
		$1,329 00

PAID FOR FUEL.

C. L. Parker	$206 56	
A. G. Nichols	9 00	
J. Warren Killam	9 00	
H. E. Cox	15 00	
Calvin L. Martin	149 75	
Howard W. Batchelder	15 00	
O. H. Brown	5 00	
R. H. Gleason	20 00	
Wendell Bancroft	952 17	
		$1,381 48

PAID FOR LABOR ON FUEL.

Charles F. Bessom	$2 00	
Eben G. Beard	2 00	
L. Adelbert Frost	3 00	
O. H. Brown	2 00	
		$9 00

INCIDENTAL SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Francis Bros., repairs	$380 82
Heyward Bros., mats	19 30
Peoples Gas & Electric Co.	18 50
S. S. Bell, manager	39 07
Reading Water Works	109 73
Charles F. Bessom, labor	2 40
David Weston	1 00
N. W. Broad, labor and repairs	15 31
Charles E. Hussey, travel, telegrams, etc.	25 00
F. E. Whittemore, miscellaneous expenses	10 33
M. F. Charles, envelopes, stamps	7 45
A. Hodson, painting	15 00
O. P. Symonds & Son	2 53
H. M. Meek	2 00
A. Gertrude Deane, repairing table	64
Stillman E. Parker, census	25 00
Bertram C. Loring, labor	85
Walter S. Parker, paid A. E. Winship	15 00
H. C. Kendall, engrossing diplomas	3 75
F. G. MacDonald	80
Robert Jones, repairing flag	1 50
Samuel W. Bowker, making cesspools	19 00
Clement Gleason, miscellaneous supplies	4 60
John Stock, cleaning cesspools	16 00
E. H. Forbes, labor and materials	24 00
Edwin E. Babb & Co., furniture	13 50
W. B. Badger & Co., furniture	46 25
Holcomb & Hoke M'f'g Co., brushes	8 25
George S. Perry & Co., furniture	160 10
Koschivitz & Co., grammar school diplomas	6 75
W. P. B. Brooks & Co., furniture	6 25
Amount carried forward	$1,000 68

Amount brought forward	$1,000 68
Walworth M'f'g Co., valves	2 70
O. S. M. E. Church, use June 22	20 00
Wendell Bancroft & Co., stage	18 31
Henry F. Miller & Sons, piano	8 00
Boston Spar Co., flag staff	200 00
Fife Bros., labor and materials	85 30
Daniel Pratt's Son, clock	10 00
William H. Wightman, insurance	80 00
Hartford Boiler Insurance Co.	112 50
Harry P. Bosson, insurance	18 00
J. F. Barnard & Co., rebinding books	31 19
Murphy, Leavens & Co., brushes	21 16
M. Forbes & Son	15 50
American Express Co.	7 35
Cummings' or Viall's Express	24 95
Sulpho Napthol Co., disinfectant	7 50
Copeland & Bowser, curtains	10 05
George H. Atkinson, miscellaneous supplies	6 13
W. H. Twombly & Sons, printing	41 95
E. C. Metcalf, miscellaneous supplies	1 28
O. O. Ordway, labor	75
W. O. Dockendorff, labor	6 42
A. J. Bancroft, labor	6 25
Albert D. Damon, labor	5 00
Mrs. C. Stratton, labor	5 10
George E. Gill, labor and material	589 13
H. K. Austin, labor	1 25
Warren E. Beard, labor	84 27
Stanley Parker, labor	1 05
Raymond B. Parker, labor	1 50
L. M. Bancroft, insurance	24 00
John I. Canty, repairs	15 00
Amount carried forward	$2,462 27

Amount brought forward . . .	$2,462 27	
H. R. Johnson, painting	8 75	
R. A. White, carriage hire	3 00	
M. S. Quinlan, labor and material . .	53 32	
George E. Lang, carriage hire . . .	2 50	
R. L. Beers, keys	3 50	
		$2,533 34

BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

American Book Co.	$71 60	
Leach, Shewell & Co.	43 06	
Edwin E. Babb & Co.	238 90	
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.	40 25	
D. C. Heath & Co.	48 06	
Greenough, Adams & Cushing . . .	50 23	
Ginn & Co.	117 29	
Dennison M'f'g Co.	75	
William Ware & Co.	6 25	
Morse Co.	20 70	
L'ech de la Semain	3 00	
J. L. Hammett Co.	39 17	
Thorp & Martin Co.	16 50	
White, Smith Publishing Co. . . .	12 98	
George F. King & Co.	23 62	
Wadsworth, Howland & Co. . . .	11 38	
Joseph Gillott & Son	9 75	
Oliver Ditson Co.	3 38	
Maynard, Merrill Co.	73 61	
Silver, Burdett & Co.	15 75	
Allyn & Bacon	25 00	
Carter, Rice & Co.	11 75	
Lothrop Publishing Co.	10 00	
Boston School Supply Co.	62 30	
New England Publishing Co. . . .	1 20	
Educational Publishing Co. . . .	1 05	
T. H. Castor	1 28	
N. L. Wilson	4 30	
		$963 11

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS.

	APPROP'ATION	SUNDRY CREDITS.	TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDING APPROP'ATION	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED	OVERDRAWN.
Salaries of Town Officers	$3,300 00		$3,300 00	$3,460 80		$160 80
Town Office	175 00		175 00	167 20	87 80	
Election Expenses	250 00		250 00	211 55	38 45	
Printing	600 00		600 00	456 93	143 07	
Abatement of Taxes	500 00		500 00	472 82	27 18	
Estate of Eliza C. Swan				277 34		277 34
Eben Beard				143 94		143 94
Charles W. Kelley				219 47		219 47
Decoration and Care of Soldiers' Graves	125 00		125 00	125 00		
State Burial Agent's Account				70 00		70 00
Ipswich Mills vs. Town of Reading				100 00		100 00
Real Estate—H. B. Crandall, Acquired by Town				73 40		73 40
State and Military Aid	2,300 00		2,300 00	2,329 50		29 50
Joseph B. Hopkins vs. Town of Reading	921 02		921 02	921 02		
Drinking Fountain	75 00		75 00	67 23	7 77	
Municipal Light and Power Plant:						
Maintenance and Interest	7,356 00		7,356 00	7,356 00		
Construction	500 00	$600 00	1,100 00	1,100 00		
Note, Issue May 1, 1896	1,400 00		1,400 00	1,400 00		
Additional Dynamo for Incandescent Lighting		3,000 00	3,000 00	3,000 00		
Reduction of Debt	1,000 00		1,000 00	1,000 00		
School House Notes		2,000 00	2,000 00	2,000 00		
School House Bonds	1,000 00		1,000 00	1,000 00		
Interest on School House Notes	480 00		480 00	520 00		40 00
" " " " Bonds	1,600 00	80 00	1,680 00	1,680 00		
" " Water Loan	2,230 00		2,230 00	2,230 00		
Reduction of Water Loan	7,000 00		7,000 00	7,000 00		
Interest	400 00	1,636 89	2,036 89	2,236 11		199 22
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,500 00	19 00	1,519 00	1,619 32		100 32
Highways, Bridges and Repairs of Sidewalks	5,500 00	13 92	5,513 92	6,103 96		590 04
Concrete Gutters, Crosswalks, and Paved Gutters	500 00		500 00	509 84		9 84
Repairs of Concrete	150 00	4 23	154 23	198 67		44 44
Concrete Sidewalks and Edgestones (abutters to pay one-half)	500 00	68 58	568 58	269 88	298 70	

Woburn & Reading Street Railway Co		10 68	10 68	15 15		4 47
Wakefield & Stoneham Street Railway Co		145 88	145 88	241 79		95 91
Reading & Lowell Street Railway Co		2 90	2 90	17 48		14 58
Removal of Snow and Ice	1,700 00	10 00	1,710 00	2,225 32		515 32
Fire Department	6,630 00	2 00	6,632 00	6,732 39		100 39
Fire Alarm Box 32	90 00		90 00	91 60		1 60
Fire Alarm Repeater	500 00		500 00	516 93		16 93
New Hose	250 00		250 00	250 00		
Laurel Hill Cemetery	900 00	433 00	1,333 00	1,318 16	14 84	
Police Department	1,700 00	83 00	1,783 00	1,872 05		89 05
Overseers of the Poor Account	4,650 00	1,621 11	6,271 11	6,126 13	144 98	
Commonwealth of Massachusetts		21 50	21 50	114 83		93 33
Town of Middleton, Account W. A. Melcher		10 00	10 00	10 00		
" " Stoneham, " Joshua Bryant		19 80	19 80	34 80		15 00
City of Waltham, Acct. Mrs. F. A. Carey		2 00	2 00	32 00		30 00
Town of North Reading, Acct. Chas. S. McIntire				34 20		34 20
Account Edith M. Holmes		20 00	20 00	20 00		
Schools	16,000 00		16,000 00	16,804 48		804 48
School Incidentals	3,500 00	13 15	3,513 15	3,496 45	16 70	
Superintendent of Schools	1,000 00		1,000 00	900 00	100 00	
Public Library	900 00	399 17	1,299 17	1,299 17		
	$77,182 02	$10,216 81	$87,398 83	$90,472 91	$799 49	$3,873 57
Overdrawn	$3,873 57					
Unexpended	799 49		3,074 08			
Expenses for Year 1898			90,472 91			
Add Temporary Loans			71,000 00			
Total Selectmen's Orders			$161,472 91			
Expenses above			$90,472 91			
Less Following Amounts Due on Account of Year 1898 :						
State and Military Aid	2,233 50					
Geo. W. Parker, Concrete	23 54					
Geo. E. Horrocks, Guardian, Chas. W. Kelly	219 47					
Jas. W. Grimes, Guardian Eben Beard	143 94					
Estate Eliza C. Swan	277 34					
Commonwealth of Massachusetts	93 33					
" " Mass., Account Burial Agent	70 00					
Town of Stoneham	15 00					
Town of North Reading	34 20					
City of Waltham	30 00					
Street Railway Companies	114 96	$3,255 28				
Less Amount of School House and Electric Light and Power Plant Notes		5,000 00	$8,255 28			
Net Expenses			$82,217 63			

DR. EDWARD F. PARKER, TREASURER,

To cash in Treasury January 1, 1898	$3,103 18
To cash rec'd from State Treasurer, National Bank Tax, 1897	42 00
" " " Corporation Tax, 1897	300 15
" " " Corporation Tax, 1898	2,586 34
" " " National Bank Tax, 1898	739 28
" " " Military Aid, 1897	114 00
" " " State Aid, 1897	1,886 50
" " " Support of State Paupers	61 02
" " County Treasurer, dog tax, 1897	399 17
" " Superintendent of Streets, material sold	5 75
" " " " " concrete and edgestone account	72 81
" " Overseers of the Poor, outside poor	64 15
" " " " " Almshouse account	947 16
" " License fees	18 00
" Paid Treasurer on orders drawn	644 28
" Received from Engineers of Fire Department, fines for badges	2 00
" " Hired money, temporary loans	75,000 00
" " Hired money, school house loans	2,000 00
" " Premium on school house note	1 60
" " Interest accrued on school house note	22
" " Hired money, Municipal Light loan	3,000 00
" " District Court fines	73 00
" " Master House of Correction, fines	30 00
" " Charlie A. Jones, executor of the will of Hiel J. Nelson, cemetery bequest	200 00
" " The estate of John Burrill, cemetery bequest	100 00
" " F. H. Dewey, executor of the will of F. O. Dewey, cemetery bequest	300 00
" " Mrs. Mary J. Kimball, cemetery bequest	50 00
" " E. Harley Gowing, executor of the will of S. H. Dinsmoor, cemetery bequest	100 00
" " Alden Batchelder, cemetery bequest	100 00
" " First National Bank, interest on deposits	154 25
" " Error on interest account, 1897	1 60
" " Reading water supply, money borrowed	1,000 00
" " Trustees of cemetery, lots sold	433 00
" " Wakefield and Stoneham Street Railroad	156 48
" " Woburn and Reading Street Railroad	10 68
" " Reading and Lowell Street Railroad	2 90
" " Superintendent of Schools, material sold	3 00
" " Superintendent of Schools, cash overpaid on bill	10 15
" " Town of Stoneham, support of J. Bryant	19 80
" " Town of Middleton, support of Melchor	18 00
" " City of Waltham, support of A. P. Carey	2 00
" " Reading Municipal Light Board, interest overdrawn	58 00
" " Christian Union Society, highway account	2 07
" " Selectmen, grass sold	1 00
" " " Highway account	2 50
" " Harley Prentiss, Collector, estate sold for taxes	10 03
" " " " Collector of Taxes, list of 1896	8,681 41
" " " " " " list of 1897	16,642 77
" " " " " " list of 1898	49,706 44
	$168,856 09

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF READING, Cr.

By cash paid State Treasurer, Corporation Tax, 1897	$38 34
" " " " " 1898	2,280 00
" " " National Bank Tax, 1898	302 94
" " County Treasurer, County Tax, 1898	3,780 58
" " Selectmen's orders, 1898	161,472 91
" In Treasury Jan. 1, 1899	981 32
	$168,856 09

EDWARD F. PARKER, *Treasurer.*

Dr. EDWARD F. PARKER, Treasurer, IN ACCOUNT

To cash in Treasury January 1, 1898		$6,439 43
" received from bonds sold		7,000 00
" " " premium on bonds sold		730 20
" " " interest accrued on bond sale		49 11
" " " interest on deposits		49 45
" " " Water Commissioners		13,824 40
		$28,092 59

Dr. EDWARD F. PARKER, IN ACCOUNT WITH READ-

To cash in Treasury Jan. 1, 1898		$49 38
" received from Electric Light Commission		16,656 60
" " " interest on deposits		8 65
		$16,714 63

WITH TOWN OF READING WATER SUPPLY, Cr.

By paying Water Commissioners' orders	$28,037 31
By cash in treasury December 31, 1898	55 28
	$28,092 59

EDWARD F. PARKER, *Treasurer.*

ING ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER PLANT, Cr.

By paying Electric Light Commissioners' orders	$15,990 25
By cash in Treasury December 31, 1898	724 38
	$16,714 63

EDWARD F. PARKER, *Treasurer.*

AUDITORS' REPORT.

LIABILITIES.

Water bonds outstanding Jan. 1, 1899	$215,000 00
Interest accrued on water bonds	716 67
Electric light bonds outstanding Jan. 1, 1899	60,200 00
Interest accrued on electric light bonds	587 17
School bonds outstanding Jan. 1, 1899	52,000 00
Interest accrued on school bonds	763 55
Due to Fire Department (estimated)	1,100 00
Miscellaneous debts	665 80
Estate of Eliza C. Swan	376 29
Temporary loans (discounted)	35,000 00
	$366,409 48

TRUST FUNDS.

Bequest of Nancy Wakefield	$100 00	
" Thomas Sweetser	100 00	
" Sabrina Nichols	100 00	
" Martha Pike	25 00	
" Sarah Batchelder	25 00	
" George L. Smith	200 00	
" Susan A. Martin	100 00	
" T. T. Greenwood	500 00	
" Mark M. Temple	100 00	
" Susan Wright, Elizabeth Preston and Margaret Gilman	75 00	
" Elizabeth B. Eames and Ida L. Nelson	100 00	
Amount carried forward	$1,425 00	

Amount brought forward . .	$1,425 00
Bequest of Savina Coggin . . .	100 00
" Margaret Towne . . .	100 00
" Lucretia A. Hopkins and Elias Boardman	150 00
" Mrs. Sarah Smith . . .	100 00
" Gilman D. Kingman . .	100 00
" Rosamond C. Pratt . . .	100 00
" Mary F. Harnden . . .	100 00
" Mary B. Wakefield . . .	100 00
" P. Jane Batchelder . . .	100 00
" Arthur D. Kingman . .	50 00
" Estate of P. A. Corkins . .	100 00
" Dorinda R. Pratt . . .	200 00
" Mary Ann McAllister . .	100 00
" Gilman A. Coggin . . .	75 00
" Mary Ann McAllister for Joseph Bryant	50 00
" Miss Mary Evans . . .	50 00
" Frederick Bancroft . . .	30 38
" Estate Samuel Pierce . .	100 00
" D. W. Berry, executor . .	100 00
" William L. Crowe . . .	100 00
" Maria Carter	100 00
" George C. Coney . . .	100 00
" Heirs of Sherman Case . .	75 00
" Estate Isaac M. Clark . .	100 00
" Estate of Mary Butler . .	150 00
" Estate of Mary E. Badger .	100 00
" Estate of Hiel J. Nelson . .	200 00
" Estate of John Burrell . .	100 00
" Estate of F. O. Dewey . .	300 00
" Estate of S. H. Dinsmore .	100 00
Amount carried forward. . .	$4,655 38

Amount brought forward . .	$4,655 38	
Bequest of Mrs. Mary J. Kimball . .	50 00	
" Alden Batchelder	100 00	
		$4,805 38
		$371,214 86
Interest accrued on above funds not yet expended		$143 50
		$371,358 36

AVAILABLE ASSETS.

Unpaid taxes Oct. 1, 1897 . . .	$9,096 82	
Unpaid taxes Oct. 1, 1898 . . .	26,019 07	
Interest accrued on unpaid taxes . .	1,072 55	
Due from State Aid account . . .	2,137 50	
" " Military Aid account . .	96 00	
" " Guardian of Charles W. Kelly	415 47	
" " H. E. Nichols . . .	9 49	
" " Smith P Burton, Jr. . .	160 96	
" " Commonwealth of Mass. . .	163 33	
" " Mrs. Julia B. French . .	22 61	
" " Town of Stoneham . .	15 00	
" " Town of North Reading .	34 20	
" " City of Waltham . . .	30 00	
" " Guardian of Eben Beard .	143 94	
" " Geo. W. Parker . . .	23 54	
" " Wakefield & Stoneham St. R. R.	95 91	
" " Reading & Lowell St. R. R. .	14 58	
" " Woburn & Reading St. R. R. .	4 47	
		$39,555 44
Cash in Treasury	$872 39	
" " " water supply . .	55 28	
" " " electric light . .	724 38	
" " " Mass. school fund .	108 93	$1,760 98
		$41,316 42

Available assets in excess of liabilities, uncollected taxes and accounts due	$39,555 44	
Cash in treasury	872 39	
		$40,427 83
Bills payable	$1,765 80	
Due estate of Eliza C. Swan	376 29	
Interest on school bonds	763 55	
Temporary Loans	35,000 00	
Interest on bequests	143 50	38,049 14
Balance available		$2,378 69

We have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Water ...issioners, and Electric Light Commissioners, and found satis- ... vouchers for all expenditures.

... have examined the accounts of the Town Clerk, Collector, ...surer, and found them correct.

EDGAR N. HUNT,
ALBERT P. DANE,
WALTER M. SCOTT,
Auditors.

BONDS AND NOTES OUTSTANDING.

	SCHOOL	ELECTRIC LIGHT	WATER
May 1, 1899	$2000 00	$1400 00	
June 1, 1899			$7000 00
Aug. 1, 1899	1000 00		
Oct. 1, 1899		1000 00	
May 1, 1900	2000 00	1400 00	
June 1, 1900			7000 00
Aug. 1, 1900	1000 00		
Oct. 1, 1900		1000 00	
March 9, 1901	5000 00		
May 1, 1901	2000 00	1400 00	
June 1, 1901			7
July 15, 1901		1000 00	
Aug. 1, 1901	2000 00		
Oct. 1, 1901		1000 00	
May 1, 1902		1400 00	
June 1, 1902			
Aug. 1, 1902	2000 00		
Oct. 1, 1902		1000 00	
May 1, 1903		1400 00	
June 1, 1903			
Aug. 1, 1903	2000 00		
Oct. 1, 1903		1000 00	
May 1, 1904		1400	
June 1, 1904			7000 00
July 15, 1904		2000 00	
Aug. 1, 1904	2000 00		
Oct. 1, 1904		00	
May 1, 1905		14 7 00	
May 10, 1905	2000 00		
June 1, 1905			7000 00
Aug. 1, 1905	2000 00		
Oct. 1, 1905		2000 00	